



■ NEW OWNERS: Rosemary and Jerry Ramsdale

New owners for the View

THE View from Weymouth has new owners.

The *View from Weymouth* and its sister titles in Bridport, Beaminster, Dorchester and Lyme Regis, have been acquired by Jerry and Rosemary Ramsdale, who also own the Mariners Hotel in Lyme Regis.

The couple, who have six children, have a holiday home in Lyme Regis and bought the Mariners in November 2007.

They have refurbished the 17th century hotel and restaurant, making it one of the most popular venues in the area.

Mr Ramsdale runs a successful magazine publishing and exhibitions company in St Albans and has other business interests, including part ownership of a fleet vehicle magazine. This is his first venture

into newspaper publishing.

The View titles will continue to be run from offices in St Michael's Business Centre in Lyme Regis.

Mr Ramsdale said: "I am looking forward to working with founders Philip and Jackie Evans and their staff in developing the View group of newspapers.

"They are excellent community publications, very popular with the readers and well respected by advertisers.

"Although these are difficult times for local newspapers I believe there is an excellent future for community publications like the View."

Mr and Mrs Ramsdale have also acquired the View from Chard, View from Ilminster and View from Sid Vale titles, as well as the View Online website.

A GREEN energy power plant for Portland has been backed by a single vote despite 866 objections.

The proposal for a site in Portland Port near Balclava Bay was refused planning permission in September 2009 for several reasons including lack of information about the environmental impact on residents and the surrounding area.

But applicants W4BRE, which hopes to use the plant to generate electricity for the national grid, successfully answered concerns with a variety of measures ranging from design changes including the height and number of vegetable oil tanks in the tank farm to producing a human health risk assessment.

They were detailed at a session of Weymouth and Portland planning and traffic committee held specially in Weymouth Pavilion Ocean Room.

by Harry Walton

Debbie Redding warned councillors that the sustainability or otherwise of the fuel itself and its source were not material planning considerations.

The meeting was told that the new plant will include a power oil production facility capable of processing 40,000 tonnes of vegetable oil per annum which would be converted into 30,000 tonnes of power oil.

There will also be a power plant with two 8.9 MW modified marine diesel engines, a tank farm for storing the vegetable oil and a transformer to make connection to the local grid.

Concerns highlighted everything from health and environmental fears to the impact on rainforests being cleared to produce palm oil which would be used in the new plant.

Once the plant goes into operation, it should generate 17.8MW of power to the national grid and provide employment for 22 members of staff.

Councillors eventually approved the power plant on a 6-5 vote subject to a variety of conditions.

These included the use of vegetable oil only, materials, air quality, a contaminated land report, flood risk measures, landscaping

and storage of fuels and oils.

After the meeting chairman Councillor Peter Farrell said: "The committee carefully considered the new information that had been provided, listened to the views of the objectors and was satisfied that there was no justification in planning terms to refuse the application."

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ViewPeople

Death Notice

ELLEN JANE NEALE

Sadly but peacefully on the 9th January 2010 at Axminster Hospital, aged 78 years. Much loved mother of Chris and Rosemary, mother-in-law to Pat and Kevin, grandmother to Joanna, Martyn, Lee, Michelle, Marie and Adam and great grandmother to Jake and Ella. Also greatly missed by Gavin, Ian, Kayleigh, Beth and Jenny. Cremation service to take place at Taunton Crematorium on Monday, 18th January 2010 at 11.00am. Family flowers only but donations if desired to be shared jointly between Leukaemia Research and the National Association for Colitis and Crohn's Disease, c/o J.F. Clarke & Son, Maryknoll, Lyme Street, Axminster.

AUTHOR and life-coach, **Wendy Knee**, has lived in Charmouth for three and a half years after frequent holidays to the village.

Originally from Manchester, Wendy left home at 17-years-old and moved around the country as she lived an eventful life before settling in the west country in the mid 1980s.

Wendy has always had a latent desire to write and pursued her passion through local newspapers and company magazines.

Wendy qualified as a life coach six-years-ago and was inspired to publish her first book "Never Die Wondering".

Following its success Wendy set up the Charmouth Literary Festival last year with friend and fellow author Sallyann Sheridan.

View from Weymouth

View from Dorchester

View From Bridport

View from Lyme Regis

View from Beaminster

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whole person and we never used to be obsessed with the money before and so to be obsessed about the money now I think is weighing people down. It's a bit like the weather at the moment, everybody is listening to the weather and nobody is going to work.

ARE there many crossovers between your writing and life coaching?

Absolutely, because the small books that I'm doing now are really because of the life coaching. I felt that it was a way in for me to produce a book, just writing about my own experiences. I am quite courageous, I have done a lot of things and I am prepared to have a go and not put my life on hold. It's not easy and I do have my moments when I've been a bit scared but I thought I'd write about it and I'd use my experiences to encourage people to not be afraid to get on and do things.

WHAT are your upcoming workshops about?

This particular series are life coaching workshops based on my book "Never die wondering" because as a result of the book people keep asking me if I'm running a workshop. The first one starts on Saturday, February 13th and I'm running two sessions in February and March and then the same in May and June.

WHO would be your three dream guests at a dinner party?

A friend and I once gave a dinner party in the 1970s, the criteria being that we would only invite people who would entertain, had intellect or were good looking. We spent a whole day cooking and had a great dinner party. I love music and Ella Fitzgerald is a favourite. I would love to know more about her early days and the wonderful jazz people she sang with. Clive James for wit and humour and of course, his brilliant writing and my glamorous friend Lynn Brunton who is naughty and has a great wit that knows no bounds.

60 SECOND INTERVIEW

Info at a glance ...

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Man exposes himself to children

SEVERAL children were frightened when a man pulled down his boxer shorts and exposed himself to them on Portland.

Police said the incident happened as three girls and a young boy were exercising horses at a quarry behind Wakeham and opposite the Pennsylvania Castle.

Sergeant Rachel Goodwin of the Weymouth and Portland Safer Neighbourhood team said: "This was a frightening experience for the children who are between eight and fifteen years of age."

The man responsible is white and in his late fifties with white hair. He was wearing a black hat and had binoculars hanging around his neck.

Sergeant Goodwin said: "This area is a particular favourite for people walking their dogs and I'd like to hear from anyone who saw this man in that area and from anyone else who recognises him from the description provided by the victims."

"This behaviour is totally unacceptable. I am determined to find this man as soon as possible and I would like the public to help me to do so."

Witnesses and anyone with information should call Dorset Police in confidence on 01305-222222 or the free and anonymous Crimestoppers line on 0800-555111.

Olympic traffic

MORE fine tuning has been carried out on the Weymouth transport package for the 2012 Olympic Games traffic regulation orders.

A meeting of Weymouth and Portland traffic committee backed proposals for a North Quay bus lane but with a revised proposal for a three space loading bay for harbour users. Vehicle class restrictions already in place on the Esplanade and Rodwell Road bus lanes will apply to the new North Quay bus lane.

This will mean that taxis, bikes and motor cycles will be permitted to use this route with the restrictions applying 24 hrs a day.

They also recommended approval for the no left turn at Boot Hill, but councillors did not go along with every proposal.

Members rejected the proposed reversal of traffic flow for the one-way system in Crescent Street although the area will be monitored.

All their recommendations must now be approved by management committee colleagues.

If you have a story or a photo for the View from Weymouth & Portland please call Harry Walton on 01305 787843 or email hdswalton@yahoo.co.uk

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Seeking a new look for gardens and chalets

by Harry Walton

DEVELOPERS are being invited to come up with ideas for the redevelopment and restoration of Greenhill Gardens and chalets in Weymouth.

The whole area has been a thorn in the council's financial side for years with particular problems over chalet maintenance and the buildings' reinforced concrete structure.

Now councillors are seeking a way forward for the site, perhaps through

commercial developers.

It could see tennis courts scrapped, chalets restored, improved and extended, the cafe relocated and outside seating, better access, disabled parking and toilets all created.

Greenhill Gardens with chalets and tennis courts were gifted to the council in 1902 with various covenants attached and objectors claimed that a

scheme to provide more chalets and sell or lease them off didn't directly benefit residents and was merely a money-making exercise which was not what the gift was intended for.

But English Heritage have said they are willing in principle to help fund the chalet refurbishment project if it is likely to be unviable and if the project

delivers an overall improvement to Greenhill Gardens.

If the project goes ahead and the tennis courts are scrapped then tennis provision will not suffer because of proposals for an indoor tennis facility at Wey Valley School and to enhance existing tennis facilities at Radipole Park Drive to competition standard.

A meeting of Weymouth and Portland management committee agreed several measures in principle.

These included repair and restoration of chalets to English Heritage requirements, a new cafe and removal of the old one, access ramps for the disabled and landscaping current tennis courts into an attractive garden area with 18 new chalets. An equal area of tennis courts would be provided elsewhere in the borough.

Such an investor could recoup capital costs and make a profit through leasing on the new and restored chalets and cafeteria.

Mariners bring back a mammoth £15,000

A TEAM of Dorset kayakers has smashed their original target to raise almost £15,000 for charity during a mammoth expedition.

Munro's Mariners, made up of 21 staff and officers from Dorset Police, including some from Weymouth, completed a 70-mile charity kayaking expedition in France - following in the fearless footsteps of Second World War commandos - in memory of Inspector Neil Munro of Dorset Police who died in 2008.

The team smashed their original target of £10,000, and presented cheques for £4,899.43 each to The Special Boat Service Association, the Neo-Natal Unit at Poole Hospital and the Dorset Police Benevolent Fund, during a ceremony in Poole.

Gill Clark, from Weymouth, is the daughter of Bill Sparks, one of the original 'Cockleshell Heroes'. Gill attended the presentation event and said: "The amount of money that they have raised is amazing."

"They did really well to complete the challenge and they will have needed to have done so much training to complete it."

"All of the hours of kayaking they had to do in those conditions, which can be treacherous, is a fantastic achievement."

The team kayaked 70 miles over four days along the Gironde and Garonne rivers in France, finishing at Blaye, near Bordeaux, on December 1st - retracing the route taken by commandos in the daring Second World War Operation Frankton against German battleships in Bordeaux harbour in December 1942.



PICTURED (from left to right front row) Pamela Bell receiving the cheque on behalf of the Neo-Natal Intensive Care Unit at Poole Hospital, Gill Clark, Mel Munro (Inspector Neil Munro's widow), Tony Ward receiving the cheque on behalf of the Special Boat Service Association and Mick Wallis and Len Chick receiving the cheque on behalf of the Dorset Police Benevolent Fund. The back row is made up of members of the Munro's Mariners team

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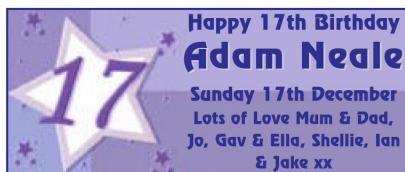
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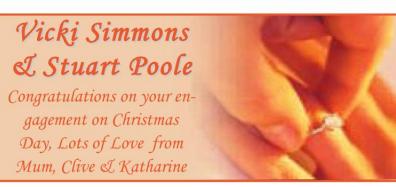


Kat Lilley, Congratulations on passing your driving test first time

With thanks to Mike Smithwick.
Love from Mum and Clivey



In Loving Memory of Justine Mclean Brian (Nee Rattenbury)
The tears still flow, the pain won't go, our hearts are broken in two, God should have warned us of that fateful day, the day that he took you, you are always on our mind, and in our thoughts
With fondest love, Mum and Dad xx

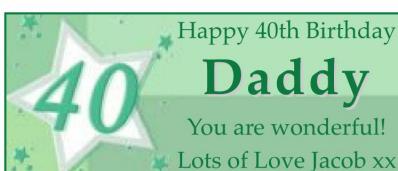
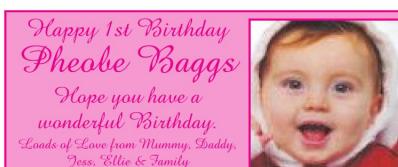
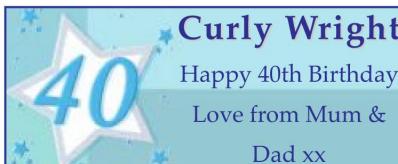


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With thanks to Mike Smithwick.
Love from Mum and Clivey



Missing you always my darling Lee but especially today as it would be your Birthday and our ninth Wedding Anniversary.
Love always Carol xx



In Loving Memory of Justine Mclean Brian (Nee Rattenbury)
We miss you so much Mummy and hope the angels are looking after you
Love from Amy and Logan xx

District council hopes to secure phone boxes future

WEST Dorset District Council's Executive Committee has approved the decision to oppose BT's plans to remove the district's public phone boxes.

Parish and town councils in West Dorset were asked to share their views on whether phone boxes in their parish are needed.

This followed BT's proposals for parishes to adopt their local phone box for £1, but the telephone equipment will be removed.

Last year West Dorset District Council, backed by the local community, opposed BT plans to remove 72 payphones in the district.

Phone boxes in rural communities can provide a reliable means of communication for young and older people, visitors and those without access to the mobile phone network.

The district council and many parish and town council's are concerned that in areas with poor mobile phone coverage, removing payphones could put lives at risk as people struggle to contact the emergency services.

For BT to be able to progress with their scheme the district council were required to withdraw its veto on removing the equipment, but to do so the district council needed to hear from parish and town councils that these phone boxes were not needed, even in emergency situations where there is poor mobile network coverage.

The district council has decided that only the phone boxes in Minterne Magna and Cheselbourne should have their equipment re-

moved after the parish councils said they had no objections and are now considering adopting their local phone box.

The other 83 phone boxes in the district should remain with fully working equipment.

West Dorset District Council Leader Robert Gould said: "Rural families need to be protected, so I am pleased with the decision to continue to oppose BT's proposals to remove phone boxes from the district.

"We would like to thank the parish and town councils for their co-operation. The district council has not had the resources to make a box-by-box decision on the BT proposals, so the

feedback from parish and town councils has been valuable in helping us reach our final decision."

If a parish or town council affected did not respond, then the district council has kept its objection to the removal of phone equipment from the local phone box in that area.

The district council's decision has been sent to BT and the Government's Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (DBERR). BT can appeal against the council's decision by going to the Competition Appeal Tribunal.

For more information and a list of phone boxes affected visit www.dorsetforyou.com/phoneboxes/west

Letwin's pledge

WEST Dorset MP Oliver Letwin has pledged to 'do his bit' for the armed forces on the Royal British Legion website.

Mr Letwin has joined hundreds of other MPs who have made their pledge to the charity online.

The Royal British Legion's campaign website, www.timetodoyourbit.org.uk, is encouraging MPs from across the parts to make the pledge.

The website also features the charity's general election manifesto, which sets out priorities for the next Government to improve conditions for service personnel and their families, the bereaved, veterans and dependants.

Kevin Shinkwin, the Legion's Head of Public Affairs, said, "We're really

grateful to Oliver Letwin for pledging to do his bit.

"The entire Armed Forces family needs the support of politicians from all parties, and our manifesto outlines practical ways the next government can help.

"We hope all the parties will give it serious consideration and that every MP and Prospective Parliamentary Candidate will pledge to do their bit."

Oliver Letwin added: "I was delighted to support the Royal British Legion. They have an important role to play in highlighting the needs of the whole Armed Forces family.

"I have pledged to do my bit and would encourage everyone to visit the website to find out how they can get involved in the campaign."



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Play park at last



ON TOP OF THEIR GAME: Children enjoy new play facilities at The Green.

A TEN-year battle has finally seen the Westham area of Weymouth get its very own play park.

A grant from the Government's play builder scheme means that the new play park — The Green — off Corporation Road will be officially opened this Saturday by Weymouth and Portland Mayor Anne Kenwood.

There will also be other activities from free refreshments to a display by Westham's very own majorettes as well as a penalty shoot out with Weymouth football club and a chance to use all the brand new equipment.

It is all a far cry from the formerly run down area frequented by gangs and under-age drinkers.

Young people and the community as a whole decided enough was

by Harry Walton

enough and nearly 20 groups, including the county council and Synergy Housing, worked with the council.

They used more than 1,800 residents' votes on the type of equipment that should be installed and the result has delighted leisure and community facilities spokesman Councillor Brendan Webster.

He said: "I am especially pleased with The Green because of the participation of local young people in determining the content. The opening will demonstrate local enthusiasm. What a great day!"

Ryan Hope, who is chairman of Westham Youth Forum said: "It has

taken such a long time to create this park, and I know that the young people in the area will use it every day. Many young people were really keen to use the park even before it was open.

"Some Forum members will work with council officers to report if anyone is mistreating the equipment and I know that parents are also keen to stop any vandalism in the area."

Ward councilor Christine James said: "The opening of this long awaited facility is a fantastic example of councillors and community groups working together to achieve results. I hope that the youngsters in Westham have many happy hours using the equipment and that they take ownership and look after it."

AN international sand sculpture exhibition and attraction is to be set up in Weymouth.

Sand sculpting has been a traditional activity in the borough since the 1920s with Weymouth's sand recognised as the best in the world for this pursuit.

It was originally introduced to Weymouth Beach some 90 years ago by Fred Darrington whose grandson, Mark Anderson, has continued and developed this specialist art form in his own

right for more than 20 years.

Now councillors have backed leasing an area of the Preston Beach overspill car park for up to three years to create the attraction subject to conditions including finance, the lease and planning consent.

Mr Anderson made a presentation supporting the scheme to Weymouth and Portland's management committee.

His business plan includes a proposal to organize the UK's first

competitive sand sculpture exhibition and attraction to showcase the work of world class artists within Lodmoor Country Park for May-September 2010 and 2011 with an option on 2012.

Activities at the family attraction will include the world's best sand sculptors creating exhibits more than 16 feet high, play and learn interactive workshops, team building, corporate hospitality, community projects and refreshment outlets.

The proposed site is on

former landfill with a membrane three feet down, so design for the attraction will be important.

Mr Anderson is internationally recognised for his commissions which have included a giant one of Windsor Castle for the recent resort visit by the Queen. He is also a key organiser of the world sand sculptor event in Italy, is classified as a world class master and is the winner of the World Championship Sculptors Choice awards.

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Having a say on marine conservation zones

DORSET residents who use the sea for work or pleasure are being encouraged to take part in the South West's biggest ever survey of marine activity.

by Harry Walton

The Finding Sanctuary project aims to map sea use as part of a move to

create Marine Conservation Zones to help ensure a healthy and productive

future for the region's coasts and seas.

Details of the project were given at a special drop-in day at Weymouth Library.

Finding Sanctuary

Dorset liaison officer John Weinberg said: "Many people attended and it was a very successful day."

"We spoke to a lot of sea users who showed great interest in the project and were keen to explain how they used the sea and how they hoped it would be used in the future.

"The development of new Marine Conservation Zones could have an impact on a wide range of people whose livelihoods or leisure activities rely on our seas and coasts.

"So it's vital that future decisions are made with input from everyone involved, from fisherman, canoeists and wildlife watchers to charter boat skippers and anyone else with an interest." As well as collating information from the region's sea users, Finding Sanctuary has also set up a number of local groups to ensure that Marine Conservation Zones are created with full local participation.

The Dorset Local
■ **JOHN WEINBERG** answers a query during the special drop-in day at Weymouth Library.

Group is represented on the regional Finding Sanctuary Steering Group which includes representatives from all southwest counties and a wide range of marine sectors. It is this Steering Group that will make recommendations for Marine Conservation Zones to the Government.

The Finding Sanctuary project's research will be used by the steering group to decide where marine conservation zones should be placed, so that they do not unnecessarily impact on how people use the sea.

New zones will be formally designated by the Secretary of State for the Environment in 2012 and will help the Government fulfil its national and international commitments to create an ecologically coherent network of marine protected areas.

Finding Sanctuary is a partnership project between a variety of groups including South West Food and Drink, the South West Wildlife Trusts, RSPB, National Trust, Natural England, JNCC and the County Councils of Cornwall, Devon, Dorset and Somerset.



■ MARINE Conservation Zones are designed to protect species such as the spiny seahorse (above) and the Periclimenes Sagittifer shrimp both pictured off the Dorset coast by photographer Steve Trewella.



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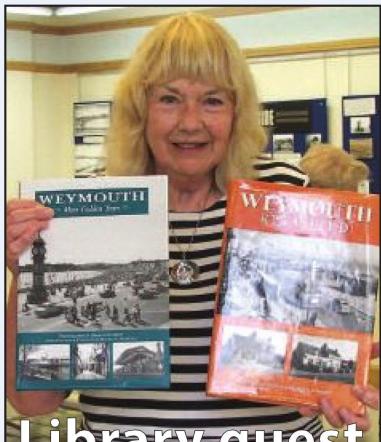
Improvements to crematorium

WEYMOUTH'S ageing crematorium is to be altered, extended and improved.

The main structure, which was built in the 1930s, had extensions to

by Harry Walton

the crematorium and alterations to the memorial gardens approved last year.



Library guest

ACCLAIMED local history author Maureen Attwooll will be the guest of honour at Littlemoor Library on February 3rd to talk about Royal visits to Weymouth through the years.

Her fascinating talk will feature the famous visits of King George III who brought his bathing machines and helped transform Weymouth into a fashionable seaside resort of the day.

The event is free and takes place between 10.30am and midday.

as a staff meeting room away from the main activity of the building.

A meeting of Weymouth and Portland planning committee was told that the main reason for all these works was new Government legislation on mercury emissions requiring the installation of mercury abatement plant, new cremators and other equipment.

Members heard that because of this it was also proposed to build a new south east extension to house the new cremators, one old cremator remaining in use until the new ones are operational.

Extensive landscaping will see circular brick planters demolished, the

crematorium road realigned, a sundial repaired and relocated, three pedestrian crossings created and an improved floral tribute area. There will also be more lawns, hedging and shrub planting.

A report to the meeting said: "One of the primary aims of the proposals is to improve pedestrian flow around the site to ensure that mourners arriving for a service are separated from those leaving a previous service."

Councillors approved the scheme subject to conditions including materials, tree protection and tree replacement.

Planning news ...

◆ A SCHEME to demolish a garage and build three self-contained flats with parking in its place has been backed by planners.

The site off Lansdowne Square in Weymouth is within a conservation area and an area of archaeological potential.

Members of Weymouth and Portland

planning committee were told that the main issues related to design, the character of the conservation area, loss of trees, archaeology, highway safety and parking and a loss of amenity space.

Planning manager Debbie Redding said in a report that the principle of residential devel-

opment was already established, homes having recently been approved nearby.

Two significant lime trees at the front of the site are to be retained but other trees inside will be felled, one of the conditions attached to granting the development being that replacement trees are included on site.

Members then backed the development subject to a dozen conditions ranging from windows, design and materials to landscaping, replacement trees, parking and cycle parking provision.

◆ TWO more flats are to be built on a development of 56 flats in Weymouth.

The scheme involves two detached blocks of flats with parking for 75 cars.

Both extra flats will be created at roof level on a new fourth floor.

Members of Weymouth and Portland planning committee were told that the proposal came after discussions with applicants Laishley Developments because they were facing "financial implications" to complete the development.

Councillors heard that building the two new units and the current 56 would be tied together with a legal agreement to ensure the whole scheme was completed.

Approval for the extra flats was delegated to officers subject to conditions including materials, design, refuse, cycle parking and landscaping.

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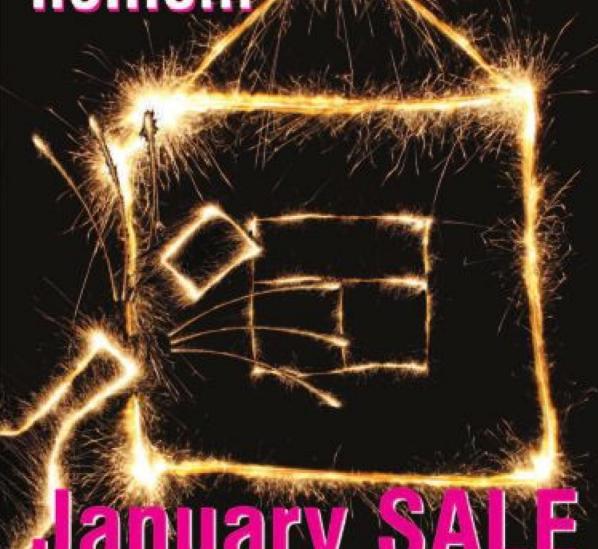
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Half way to their playground target in just three months

HARD work has seen a Chickerell group raise nearly half its £8,000 target for a new playground in barely three months.

The overall cost of the playground is likely to be around £80,000 and the Chickerell@Play community playground group has been asked to raise ten per cent of that figure.

Many fundraising events were held over the Christmas period and among cash raised was £100 in donations from the Townswomen's Guild, £500 from the sale of Chickerell 2010 calendars, badges and keyrings, £420 from a festive float and carols event and £112 from a collection at the St Mary's Church crib service.

The group's next big fundraising event is A Bit of a Posh Do which will be held at the Willowbed Hall on Saturday, January 23rd from 7.30pm.

Tickets, which are selling out fast, cost £12.50 and are available from the Chickerell Town Council offices.



CHICKERELL COMMUNITY PULLING TOGETHER: The Christmas float raised £420 towards the cost of a new playground.

by Harry Walton

There will be dancing to Shooter, a buffet, a cash bar and lots of fun and games. Fundraising group

founder Julie Cleaver said: "The support from the local community, school and council has been amazing.

"After a hectic Christmas season, the people of Chickerell are really looking forward to letting their hair down at the Posh Do. It's going to be a good night!"



Family fun returns

A SATURDAY morning club for dads and their children returns by popular demand this month at Weymouth Library.

Fantastic Family Fun, which features songs, stories and craft activities, will be held between 10.30-11.30am at the library in Great George Street on Saturday, January 30th.

Events in October and November were so successful that three more sessions have been arranged to start 2010, each with a different theme.

The January 30th theme will be Winter and it will be followed by the Jungle and Wild Things on February 27th and Spring on March 27th.

Sessions have been designed especially for the under-fives and their dads but mums and other family members are welcome to come along and join in the fun too.

Families can drop in anytime during

the one-hour session which is free to attend and run by the library and Mulberry Children's Centre staff.

Weymouth Library manager Marie Trevett said: "Fantastic Family Fun is a golden opportunity for dads and their children to grab some quality time together and enjoy themselves in a safe environment.

"It's also a great chance to explore what else the library has to offer, including a huge area just for children, as well as DVDs, CDs, computers, newspapers and magazines for other visitors."

The library runs half-hour Storytime sessions on Saturday mornings when Fantastic Family Fun is not on, as well as many other events and activities for all ages.

More information is available on 01305 762410 or by going to www.dorsetforyou.com/fff.

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Free library service for the housebound

DORSET Library Service wants to hear from housebound Weymouth and Portland residents who would like free book deliveries to their home.

The borough has a good spread of libraries with a main branch in Weymouth

The Christian Column

AS I SEE IT ...

by Geoff Treleaven

I WAS somewhat shocked when a fellow Christian said to me "It's a marvellous thing to discover you are not a Christian." I would have thought the very opposite.

We had been discussing the Billy Graham crusades and I observed that many who made a commitment to Christ included clergy. That was when he made his comment.

However, when I thought about it, he was absolutely right. Discovering you are not a Christian gives the opportunity to do something about it.

Personally, I do not like being in pain and I doubt if many do. But pain can be a blessing if it leads to diagnosing something seriously wrong for which appropriate treatment can bring healing. I am sure there is a parallel here.

It sounds unbelievable, but I did hear of a vicar who was suddenly converted by his own sermon! It was so evident that his congregation said among themselves "The vicar has been converted". Such is the power of God's word, leading to faith or faith renewed.

If it can happen to a vicar, it can happen to us. It might be a painful discovery, but if it leads to faith in Jesus Christ it will be well worth the initial discomfort!

by Harry Walton

town centre as well as others in Chickewell, Wyke Regis, Littlemoor and two on Portland, but for some people a trip out to pick up a book is just not possible.

The home delivery service is available thanks to a partnership between Dorset County Council's Library Service and the Women's Royal Voluntary Service (WRVS).

They were one of a number of teams jointly recognised for Team of the Year

at the Volunteer Centre Dorset Awards 2009.

Books are chosen to suit the taste of individual readers while large print and talking books are available and titles can also be ordered on request.

People using the service could even be a carer for someone else because that has affected their ability to

visit a library.

More than 200 dedicated volunteers already visit around 1,500 housebound people across the county but new customers and volunteers are always welcome.

Anyone interested in the service can call 01305 225000 or email dorsetlibraries@dorsetcc.gov.uk

to find out more.

People can also drop into their local library to discuss the needs of a friend or family member who wants to use the service.

More information can be found in the 'Libraries for everyone' section of www.dorsetforyou.com/libraries



CHRISTINE Machin and Anthony Hammond (Dorchester WRVS volunteers), Chris Pullen (Dorset Library Service), Gill Gould (WRVS territory manager), Gerald Duke (awards evening sponsor) at the recent volunteer awards.

thebestofweymouthandportland

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Problem property

A STRATEGY is being set up to deal with a problem property on Portland.

Councillors were told that 11 High Street, Fortuneswell, has been in disrepair for many years and as recently as 2007 was considered "a dangerous structure" before £10,000 worth of repairs paid for by the council as a responsible local authority reduced the threat.

Now council staff have been authorised to continue negotiations with the owner to agree a joint disposal strategy.

A planning application to build a single terraced home will also be submitted for the plot next door owned by the council, the overall plan being to market 11 High Street and the second plot as a joint scheme, the owner and the council sharing costs.

Members of Weymouth and Portland management committee were told that the semi-derelict property and its supporting scaffolding were "most unsightly" on what was the only highway route off Portland.

Packaging the two plots as a single development site openly marketed as an opportunity for private sector residential development was the best way forward, the meeting was told, and councillors approved such negotiations going ahead.

Wyke Regis PACT

MEMBERS of the Wyke Regis community are invited to attend the latest PACT (Partners and Communities) public meeting to be held at the Wyke Regis Working Mens Club, Portland Road, Weymouth at 7pm tomorrow (Thursday January 14th).

Residents with issues related to anti-social behaviour, criminal activity and/or community safety can bring these issues to the attention of the PACT panel at the meeting.

All issues raised will be considered and those voted to be of greatest concern will be subject to partner action for the next quarter, designed to reduce or minimise problems on a joint basis.

The PACT panel is made up of police, local councils, fire, housing and health services. Wherever you see the PACT logo, you can be assured that community service providers are working together in partnership, rather than any single organisation to improve communities.

LYME REGIS arts fest

2010

A planning meeting and ArtsFest AGM
will be held on

Tuesday 19th January

at the Guildhall, Bridge Street

at 7.00pm

to lay the foundations of the 2010 festival

All artists and supporters welcome!

Offenders put something back into the community

by Tom Glover

OFFENDERS in Portland have been cleaning up their acts as part of a community payback scheme.

Two large supervised groups of offenders spent the first weekend of the new year clearing rubbish from Chesil Beach at Portland as part of their unpaid community work.

Under the supervision of Graham Metcalfe, a Dorset Probation Area Community Payback Supervisor, the two groups cleared an area of beach approximately a quarter of a mile long. The rubbish was placed in bags and collected by the Weymouth and Portland Borough Council Waste Management Services.

The unpaid work is a legal requirement of the offenders' community order and can range from 40 to 300 hours.

Whilst subject to such an order, good behaviour, punctuality and hard work are ensured by experienced supervisors and unacceptable behaviour and failure to attend, results in action being taken by the offender manager with the matter being returned and dealt with by the court.

Projects are not permitted to involve work which would normally be done by paid employees and have to meet certain health and safety requirements but within these guidelines there is plenty of scope for people to choose exactly what happens in their area.

Mike Thomas, Unit Manager of the Dorset Community Payback Scheme said: "We are encouraging communities to take this opportunity to identify work that they would like to see done and to nominate their projects".

Projects can be nominated by contacting the Dorset Probation Community Payback Unit, telephone 01929 556513 or email community.payback@dorset.probation.gsi.gov.uk.



■ AN offender gets to work on the clear up



■ OFFENDERS work on the quarter of a mile stretch of beach

Fewer benches and more sturdy materials



■ RUST and salt take their toll on Preston promenade benches, some of which have gaping holes in their metal legs.



by Harry Walton

STONE could be used when wood and steel benches on Preston promenade are replaced.

Many of the benches have now reached the end of their useful lives with battered wood and gaping holes in rust-covered metal legs.

Councillors have been looking at what needs to be done and a meeting of Weymouth and Portland management committee has backed a gradual reduction in the number of benches over the next five years from 42 down to 25.

This reduction will be monitored to ensure what is left is both manageable and the right amount of seating to meet future demand, so bench numbers may eventually be increased from 25.

Members also backed a phased shift to a bench design which is more financially sustainable and suitable for the "particularly harsh environment" of the site and the use of stone is one of the options being looked at.

The meeting was only too well aware of the difficult financial situation the council is currently in, so members agreed that such an approach should be within current revenue budgets and income generated through a sponsorship and/or donation scheme.

Bench costs have risen sharply, the meeting heard, and if the original 1997 installation for 42 benches cost about £19,700 then the current "unfeasible" cost would be more than double that at £42,000.

Councillors also approved original bench donors being approached with an option to take part in any future bench scheme for Preston promenade and members asked their officers to investigate mounting existing memorial bench plaques on Preston sea wall at a single designated spot.

Do you recognise this clock?

POLICE are appealing to the owner of a clock to step forward after it was discovered during a raid on a Weymouth house.

Police are hoping to reunite the marble mantle clock with its rightful owner after it was found by officers who were searching flats in a house in the Rodwell area of Weymouth.

Detective Constable Georgina Guyett, of Weymouth CID, said: "The clock may be stolen and I would like to hear from owner or from anyone else who recognises the clock and who can give any information about it or about the rightful owner."

No-one has been arrested in connection with the recovery of the clock which was found in an empty and unoccupied room.

Anyone with information is asked to call police

on 01202 01305 222222 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.



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Weymouth Matters

A personal View by HARRY WALTON

■ THERE is something slightly obscene about seeing Easter cream eggs prominently displayed in Weymouth and Portland shops with the New Year barely started.

I like cream eggs but I'd also like a bit of a break from Christmas feasting before having more confectionary paraded everywhere I go.

Those whose religious beliefs are strong must also be a bit bewildered.

After all, there's nothing like celebrating the birth of Jesus on one day only to be confronted the next morning with a chocolate sweet associated with his resurrection at Easter.

If I remember my biblical quote correctly "on the third day he rose again from the dead", so if it took Jesus three days to officially triumph over death I don't feel it's asking too much for shops to let a few weeks go past celebrating Christmas before chocolate trading starts to, well, bite.

Look out all politicians!

A GENERAL election will be held in the next few months and I will be voting for the Dorset Trading Standards department.

They are not putting up a candidate but they could offer an absolutely vital lifeline to sanity.

Thirty-five years as a journalist has taught me that there isn't a single politician who lies.

They all put their party line across with dripping sincerity but, to paraphrase George Orwell, "all politicians are truthful but some are more truthful than others".

This year the whole lot of them are in for a nasty shock.

The first would-be MP to ring my front doorbell will get all my attention but not my vote.

Instead I propose that people follow my example and bundle all their staggering claims and promises into a large envelope and post it off to Trading Standards to go through them with a fine toothcomb.

No longer will it be possible for politicians to get away with casual comments such as "We are the party of the people" or "A vote for us is a vote for the future".

Instead those comments will get a sort of political quality control test and, if found wanting, then the politicians concerned will

be fined.

I am confident that this approach could really benefit members of the public.

The prospect of politicians actually having to put their money where their mouth is should see a dramatic fall off in the number of party faithful banging on doors to interrupt meals, baths and key television moments.

That will leave us all a lot freer to distribute election leaflets for the Monster Come Dancing Looney Strictly Raving X Factor Party which **does** get my vote because it has promised not to knock on my door and ask for it.

Watch out there's a bike about

BE afraid, be very afraid because Weymouth and Portland is now in the single most dangerous period of the year.

Thousands of little Christmas bikes have been bought as presents for thousands of little Christmas children and they are all out there learning how to use them.

Rambo fighting the Terminator in the cab of a runaway ammunition lorry heading for a cliff might be more dangerous, but most of us are unlikely to get embroiled in that scenario.

However, it is very likely that we will come across beginners on bikes where we risk being stabbed by a stabilizer, pulverized by a pedal or rammed by a runaway.

The current trend seems to favour the sink or swim approach of putting the little darlings on their shiny new machine, giving them a push and a cheery wave and letting them get on with it.

But as Mum or Dad watches fondly from behind the safety of a garden gate it is unsuspecting pedestrians like myself who suddenly have a quick decision to make.

We face bug-eyed little Bob or terrified Theresa careering out of control down the pavement towards us in charge of a lethal weapon.

And as we hurl ourselves out of their path and seek safety in a pyracantha hedge we can just hear parental advice that the brake is the lever on the left.

I can't even offer ordinary people hope for the future because those same parents will later help buy their grown-up offspring a battered Subaru with a large noisy exhaust for them to learn to drive in so they can do some real damage

Weymouth lost in a world of its own

FOR those of you who haven't already guessed, Weymouth is not part of the real world.

Snow closed airports, blocked roads, shut schools and paralysed almost every part of the country but people across the borough only faced

flurries, a few icy streets and pavements and a bit of frost on the front lawn.

Even the briefest glance at any national news programme reveals a chilling tale of countryside blanketed in white, cars abandoned or skidding out of control and

excited children on sledges or building snowmen.

Nowhere did we get exclusive coverage of people sunbathing on Weymouth Esplanade, browsing for short-sleeved shirts in the sales or overhauling their

mowers for the first cut of spring.

This is hardly surprising since, while the town is chilly, it has long enjoyed a sort of "Lost World" status created by the Ridgeway which seems to protect us from the worst that winter can

produce.

So all of you frustrated

by the lack of snow, my daughter included, appear to be facing a long wait for festive flakes unless the massive Ridgeway cutting for Weymouth's new relief road lets a bit in.

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Registered Manager and owner Alison Scott said " it's great to finally be registered allowing us to provide personal care in the home."

She added " We are passionate about providing an excellent service and a wide range of support to our client as we understand the real benefits of continuing to live in your own home. 1-2-1 Maincare can help make that happen."

1-2-1 MainCare provides Personal care and a wide range of additional domestic support based on the clients own requirements which are agreed through an extensive assessment at the clients home.

Alison added " Allowing people to maintain their independence is our aim and domiciliary care provides that practical and social lifeline that people need."

The Home Care Service provides an all round service and is also able to provide access to gardeners, plumbers and electricians should clients require this.

Alison brings over 30 years nursing experience to the role with the last six years as a community nurse locally and is well placed to understand the needs of Clients in their home.

The agency has offices based on the Granby and is well located to service the Weymouth, Portland and surrounding areas.

Please call Alison on 01305 340850 for details

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SCHÜCO



View profile

Helping others on the road to recovery

THE new chairman of Dorset Mental Health Forum has good reason to be interested in the work of the Dorchester-based independent charity.

Former RAF officer Hannah Walker, 53, who was brought up on the Isle of Wight and now lives in West Dorset, had a glowing service history until she suffered the first of many breakdowns in 1990.

After graduating from officer training with the sash of merit and training as a personnel officer, she had many and varied jobs in the RAF, including Royal visits officer in Germany and a member of the operational staff in the Ministry of Defence.

"I travelled widely and represented both the RAF and combined services at sailing," she said.

But after becoming ill, she was eventually diagnosed with bipolar disorder.

"It was decided I should be thrown out of the RAF under the same regulations applied to drug addicts and alco-

holics and without a pension," she said. "It took me well over a year to fight that and for the RAF to admit they had made a mistake."

In the end, she was invalidated out of the RAF as a squadron leader in 1991. She retrained as a psychotherapist and worked on an acute psychiatric ward for six years until, once again, she had to retire because of her mental health.

Hannah describes her road to recovery as long and hard. She is very passionate about the forum's work and it's why she is so willing to be its figurehead.

"I must have taken every tablet known to man in the hope of controlling the symptoms of my illness," she recalled. "I've had 24 admissions to psychiatric wards during the last 20 years.

"I started my life as a patient on a mixed ward with nothing to recommend about it. There was violence and quite often I didn't feel safe. The dormitories had four beds in them and there

HANNAH WALKER had a promising career in the RAF until she suffered a series of mental breakdowns. Now the new chairman of Dorset Mental Health Forum, Hannah talks to MARGERY HOOKINGS about how living with mental health affected her life.

were communal baths.

"On night shifts it was very difficult to sleep and a search for a staff member was hopeless. The doctors gave orders to the nurses who gave orders to the patients, most of whom paid no attention. The buildings were grim and the food grimmer.

"The subsequent hospital I went to was very different. I was consulted about my care at every stage and helped to fill in my care plan. Staff were approachable and had time to talk.

"There were single rooms and the food was better. Now I go there with a very positive attitude that I shall get better quickly and not spend too much time away from home."

Hannah said the difference between the two units was very simple. The first practised what is called the "medical

model", where, Hannah said "the psychiatrist was God and in any case one never saw him".

The second unit practised a "recovery model".

"This places patients in the centre of their care and they are looked upon as the experts when being treated," Hannah said.

"Groups of different kinds fill the days and the occupational therapy room is widely used. Staff have emerged from their hiding places and are very willing to help and to talk.

"No longer does the psychiatrist hold such power as there are more than enough people with illnesses to tell them what works best for them. I can't speak warmly enough of the recovery model and the better outcomes it produces."



HANNAH Walker

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What is the Dorset Mental Health Forum?

DORSET Mental Health Forum is a Dorset-wide independent charity run and led predominantly by people who have experienced mental health problems.

The forum, which is based in Durngate Street, Dorchester, employs about 40 staff and has a range of projects across Dorset and ongoing developments, funded in a number of different ways – including contracts from local statutory organisations, a grant from the Big Lottery Fund and social enterprise income.

It provides information for mental health service users and their carers, the general public and statutory services. It provides day services, an advocacy service and mental health awareness training.

Becky Aldridge, assistant services manager, said: "The forum has a clear philosophy and ethos. Service users, people with lived experience of mental health problems and recovery are at the heart of everything we do."

According to the Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health, "recovery" is defined as "a set of values about a person's right to build a meaningful life for themselves, with or without the continuing presence of mental health symptoms. Recovery is based on ideas of self-determination and self-management. It emphasizes the importance of hope in sustaining motivation and supporting expectations of an individually fulfilled life".

Said Becky: "Many of our staff are being supported along their own personal journey of recovery, having become employed by the forum at a time when other employment was not achievable for them."

"Not only have these people been able to experience flexible, understanding and supportive employment, but in some cases they have been able to utilise their own experiences to positive effect for others, which has enabled them to grow in confidence and to develop themselves."

"Another example would be how we have empowered and enabled service users to believe they will be heard and to have a voice regarding the shaping, modernising and delivery of local

statutory mental health services.

"We have a growing constituency of several hundred mental health service users and people with lived experience in Dorset, with whom we regularly consult and involve in statutory service planning."

"Many people are also involved directly in influencing service provision by attending meetings and providing representative feedback, taking part in recruitment and training of statutory staff and developing forum peer-led services themselves."

For more information about the forum, go to the website at www.dorsetmentalhealthforum.org.uk.



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Trampolines or similar activity based concession - Front Beach (on the sand dressed shingle close to the jetty separating the shingle beach from the main sandy beach)
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Please note that out of season storage of the deckchairs will not be available.
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Tender forms and conditions of operation for each site may be obtained from the Town Clerk and should be returned to the Council Offices with each tender being submitted in a plain sealed envelope clearly endorsed to indicate to which concession the envelope relates, by not later than first post on Tuesday 11th March 2010.

The Council does not bind itself to accept the highest or any tender received and may wish to interview applicants.

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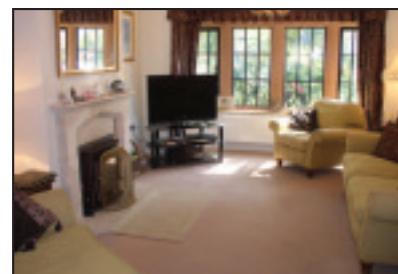
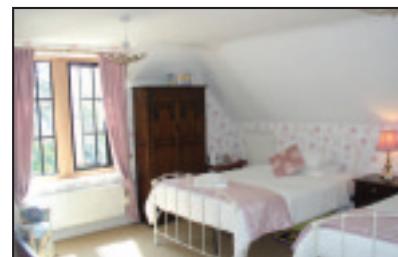
paved driveway and double garage.

The accommodation with many of the principle rooms enjoying views over the gardens and glimpses of Lyme Bay comprises- entrance hallway, cloakroom, study, lounge, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room and utility room with connecting room to double garage. An oak stair case rises to the first floor with master suite having dressing room and en-suite bathroom. There is a guest bedroom with en-suite, two further bedrooms and bathroom,

stairs to second floor with bedroom five and bathroom.

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Spacious three bedroom cottage with countryside views

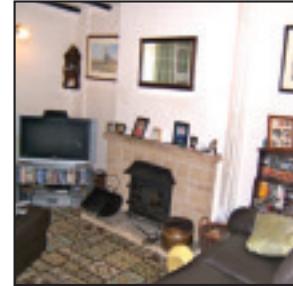
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Phil Spencer to announce best agents in the uk

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Any agent that registers for the scheme is making a public pledge that they are focused on providing the best possible service to their clients whether they are buying, selling or renting through the agent says Simon Brown,

Managing Director of Awards For Business who run the national scheme. In a difficult market customers need to be certain agents are working their hardest to earn their fees.

David James, Manager of Martin & Co Weymouth said "We take our levels of customer service very seriously because we know clients have a choice. We have always been very proud of the personal service we provide and this is great way to demonstrate how good we really are."

The national scheme is backed by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). David Dalby, Residential Director at RICS, said "This is the fifth year that RICS have been involved with the awards, which we support because the results are based solely on customer satisfaction rather than the opinions of a judging panel."

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BRIDPORT SOLD



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An almost new, purpose built, spacious maisonette at market town centre. 3 bedrooms, en-suite shower, family bathroom, cloakroom, large living room, gas C. H., D. G., parking.

WEST BAY - £179,000



A well presented penthouse apartment in popular coastal village commanding exceptional sea and rural views. Double bedroom, bathroom, living room, kitchen, D. G., lift, parking.

WEST BAY SOLD



A spacious 2nd floor apartment with balcony and garage, with views onto the Harbour. 2 double bedrooms, bathroom, living room, kitchen, electric heating, communal lift.

BRIDPORT - £212,000



An extended and updated ex local authority family house offering spacious well equipped accommodation. 3 beds, bathroom, cloakroom, lounge/diner, kitchen, utility, gas C. H., D. G., garage, gardens, ample parking.

BRIDPORT - £220,000



An elegant ground floor apartment in refurbished Grade II listed building, just off market town centre. Master bed en-suite, bedroom 2, shower room, living room, kitchen, gas C. H., parking, communal grounds.

WEST BAY - £225,000



Uninterrupted sea views extending to Portland from this purpose built 1st floor apartment on sea front of holiday/fishing village. 2 bedrooms, bathroom, living room, kitchen, sun room, D. G., elec heating, garage.

BRADPOLE - £235,000



A well presented semi-detached character cottage with garden and parking in active village location. 2 double bedrooms, living room, conservatory/dining room, bathroom, cloakroom, Gas C. H.

LODERS - £250,000



A stone and slate terraced character cottage, extended and updated, at sought after village centre. 3 bedrooms, shower room, 2 receptions, kitchen, utility area, D. G., C. H., garden, views.

WALDITCH - £301,000



A late 1930's, well maintained, detached character chalet style bungalow. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, cloakroom, Gas C. H., double glazing, gardens, garage, ample parking.

BRIDPORT - £325,000



An exceptionally well presented and most spacious split level bungalow, with views. 2 bedrooms, 2 receptions, large conservatory, utility, Gas C. H., gardens.

BRIDPORT SOLD



A detached modern bungalow in select residential area, just off market town centre, enjoying a level site and Southerly rear garden. 2 bedrooms, bathroom, cloakroom, lounge/diner, sun room, ample parking, garage, views.

BRADPOLE - £330,000



A mature spacious detached family house, just decorated and with new carpets and curtains on market town outskirts. 3 bedroom, bathroom, 2 receptions, kitchen/breakfast, sun room, Gas fired C. H., D. G., gardens, garage, parking, views.

BRIDPORT - £397,000



A well equipped, spacious, detached residence, situated about 1/3 of a mile from Bridport town centre. Master bed en-suite, 3 further beds, 3 receptions, sun room, kitchen, utility, gas C. H., D. G., garden, garage/workshop.

BRIDPORT TO LET



HOUSE SHARE TOWN CENTRE. FURNISHED BEDROOM AND OWN BATHROOM, SHARE OF LOUNGE, KITCHEN AND GARDEN. GAS C. H. SUIT PROFESSIONAL, NON SMOKER. £90.00 PER WEEK

BRIDPORT TO LET



1 BED, UNFURNISHED, 1ST FLOOR APARTMENT. LOUNGE, KITCHEN, BATHROOM, GAS C. H., GARDEN, PARKING. NO DSS. NO PETS. NO CHILDREN. £450.00 PER MONTH.

WEST BAY TO LET



1ST FLOOR, UNFURNISHED STUDIO. BED/SITTING ROOM, SUN ROOM, KITCHEN, BATHROOM, GARAGE, COMMUNAL GARDENS. £425.00 PER MONTH

CREWKERNE TO LET



4 BED DETACHED FURN/UNFURNISHED HOUSE. MASTER EN-SUITE, BATHROOM, 2 RECEPTIONS, STUDY, CLOAKROOM, GAS C. H., GARDEN, D. G. £950.00 PER MONTH

BRIDPORT TO LET



3 BED, UNFURNISHED, MID TERRACE HOUSE. LOUNGE/DINER, KITCHEN, BATHROOM, GAS C. H., GARDEN, GARAGE. NO DSS. £600.00 PM.

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LETTINGS

BEAMINSTER £395 pcm

A two bedroom first floor flat comprising living room, kitchen, bathroom, balcony, garden and parking. Available Now UF

BRIDPORT £485 pcm

Character Cottage, central to town. comprises of, lounge, kitchen, one double bedroom, bathroom, rear court yard and on street parking - Available Feb- UF

BRIDPORT £550 pcm

A modern two bedroom apartment with gas central heating and allocated parking. Comprising, security entrance, lounge, kitchen, two double bedrooms and bathroom Available Now- UF

CHARMOUTH £575 pcm

Two bedroom ground floor flat. Two reception rooms. Bathroom. Near to beach. Garage. Available Now UF

BRIDPORT £625 pcm

A terraced cottage in walking distance to the town and local amenities, comprising, lounge, kitchen/breakfast room, cloakroom, two double bedrooms, bathroom, court yard garden and parking. Available Now - UF.

BRIDPORT £650 pcm

A terraced property in the centre of the town, comprising, lounge, dining room, kitchen, two double bedrooms, study area, bathroom and garden. Available March P

BRIDPORT £725 pcm

A terraced listed pretty cottage in walking distance to the town, comprising, entrance porch, lounge/diner, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, gardens to the front and rear, on street parking. Available Feb - UF

WALDITCH £850 pcm

A spacious family home close to the town, comprising entrance hall, cloakroom, lounge with patio doors to the garden, kitchen/diner, three bedrooms with master en-suite, gardens, garage and parking. Available March - UF

SALES

BRIDPORT £129,950

- Two Double Bedrooms
- Top Floor Flat
- For Investors Only
- Currently Let Out
- Achieving £550.00 Per Calender Month
- Town Centre Location
- No Onward Chain

BRIDPORT £129,950

- Two Bedroom
- Terraced Cottage
- In Town Centre
- Open Plan Living
- Bathroom
- No Onward Chain

BRIDPORT £140,000

- One/two Bedrooms
- Living Room
- Conservatory
- Shower Room
- Courtyard Garden
- Separate Outbuilding
- Walking Distance To Town
- Ideal First Time Buy

BRIDPORT £184,950

- Two / Three Bedroom
- Terraced House
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Dining Hall
- Easy Maintenance Garden
- Situated Off South St
- Recently Renovated
- Viewing Advised

BRIDPORT £249,950

- Detached Mature Bungalow
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Sitting & Dining Room
- Kitchen & Utility Room
- Bathroom
- Surrounding Gardens
- Driveway & Garage
- No Onward Chain

BURTON BRADSTOCK £249,950

- Two Bedroom
- Terraced House
- Built By C G Fry
- Living Room
- Kitchen/diner
- Downstairs Cloakroom
- Garage And Parking
- No Onward Chain

BRIDPORT £289,950

- Three Bedroom
- Detached Bungalow
- Stunning Country Views
- Two Reception Rooms
- Snug
- Conservatory
- Garage And Ample Parking
- No Onward Chain

WEST BAY £349,950

- Three Double Bedrooms
- Detached Bungalow
- Level Walk To Amenities
- Two Reception Rooms
- En Suite Shower Room
- Off Street Parking
- Garage
- Viewing Advised

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RESIDENTIAL LETTINGS

AXMINSTER

CALL: 01297 32879

Axminster £460pcm

A one bedroom ground floor flat, in a quiet location, near the centre of Axminster. Offering gas central heating, double glazing and a garden with countryside views. Available now.

South Chard £660pcm

A large 2 bedroom character cottage, with 2 reception rooms, log fire, 2 double bedrooms and a garage. Available now. Pets considered, regret no children or DSS.

Axminster £725pcm

A 3 double bedroom townhouse, on a popular development, on the outskirts of Axminster. With allocated parking and an enclosed garden. Pets and children considered.

Nr Axminster £850pcm

A spacious 3 bedroom house, situated in a small complex. Enclosed, easy maintainable, garden and allocated parking. Available now on an initial 6 month tenancy. Pets and children considered.

BRIDPORT

CALL: 01308 459565

Bridport £500pcm

A modern and well presented one bedroom ground floor flat, in a quiet location in Bridport town centre. Benefiting from an allocated off road parking space and storage shed. Available early March. A small pet considered.

Mr Melplash £650pcm

A very well presented two bedroom mid terrace cottage with enclosed patio garden and parking, situated in a peaceful location, yet within easy reach of Bridport. Available now.

Broadwindsor £675pcm

A pretty three bedroom semi-detached cottage in the sought after village of Broadwindsor. With enclosed garden and parking. Available early February. Furnished or unfurnished.

West Milton £895pcm

A spacious detached former farmhouse with four bedrooms, good size garden, oil fired central heating and off road parking for two cars, situated in an idyllic rural location. Available immediately.

DORCHESTER

CALL: 01305 261171

Dorchester £640pcm

A spacious ground floor flat with 2 good size bedrooms situated conveniently close to the centre of Dorchester with communal garden and garage. Available now.

Dorchester £625pcm

A modern and well presented second floor 2 bedroom apartment with parking, central heating and views across the town to the surrounding countryside. Available now.

Dorchester £975pcm

Spacious three bedroom detached house with two reception rooms, oil fired central heating and double glazing. Integrated garage, off road parking and large garden. Available now.

Broadmayne £1150pcm

A detached 5 bedroom family home with flexible accommodation and extensive gardens, situated on the outskirts of Broadmayne with lovely rural views. Available now.



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Web: www.martindiplock.co.ukEmail: martindiplock@btinternet.com

LYME REGIS

£195,000



LYME REGIS

£375,000



A spacious detached 3 bedroomed chalet bungalow set in delightful mature, secluded gardens. Integral garage. Sea, coastal & country views.

UPLYME

GUIDE PRICE £350,000



A delightful Grade 11 Listed detached cottage, elevated location with stunning views over rolling countryside to the Listed Cannington Viaduct. Features include inglenook fireplace & beamed sitting room. Two bedrooms. Garden of about 0.25 acre.

BURROWSHOT

£399,950



A surprisingly spacious detached 4 – 5 bedroomeed property refurbished to a high standard in a semi-rural location with excellent woodland views. Detached garage & office/studio. Secluded gardens & grounds. In all about 0.25 acre.

LYME REGIS

£265,000



A 3 – 4 bedroomeed town house improved & refurbished to a high standard in a sought after location with excellent sea & coastal views from upper floors. Small patio & garden area. Parking space.

COLYFORD

£760,000



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AXMINSTER £148,000



- Two Bedroom End Terrace House
- Lounge & Kitchen/Diner
- Lobby & Bathroom
- Good Size Plot
- Potential for Extending (Subj. to PP)
- No Onward Chain

BRIDPORT £199,950



- Charming Three Storey Cottage
- About Half a Mile from Town
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Spacious Open Plan Living
- Open Fire in Lounge
- Garden to the Rear

BRIDPORT £220,000



- Period Semi Detached
- Good Location close to Town
- Three Bedrooms
- Garden & Parking
- uPVC D/G & Gas CH
- Internal Updating Required

BRIDPORT £240,000



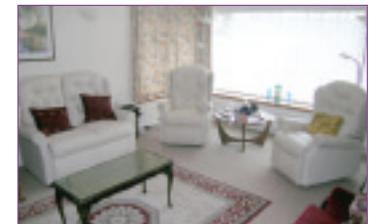
- Detached 4 Bed Home
- Spacious Kitchen/ Diner
- Large Conservatory
- Lounge & Cloakroom
- Northern Edge of Town
- Garage & Enclosed Garden

WINSHAM £365,000



- Substantial Grade II Listed House
- Central Village Location
- 4-5 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms
- Spacious Lounge with Hamstone Fireplace
- Bespoke Kitchen & Sep Dining Room
- Utility Room & Garden Room
- Courtyard Garden

BRIDPORT GUIDE PRICE £400,000



- Detached Home with Views
- 4-5 Bedrooms – Two En-Suites
- Lounge, Dining Room & Study
- Garage & Driveway Parking
- Large Garden with Summer House
- Tucked Away but Convenient Location

UPLYME £425,000



- Detached 2-3 Bedroom Chalet Bungalow
- With Self Contained 1 Bed Annex
- Set in Large Secluded Plot of Approx. ¼ Acre or more
- Woodland Views
- Ideal Home with Business Or Space for Dependent Relative

ROUSDON £450,000



- Substantial Barn Conversion
- Small Settlement in Semi-Rural Location
- Lounge, Dining Room, Sun Room
- Spacious Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Utility Room, Study, Large Hall
- Four Bedrooms, Mstr En Suite
- Parking, Carport, Workshop

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CHARMOUTH LYME REGIS SEATON
fsbcharmouth@btconnect.com teamfsb@btconnect.com fsbseaton@btconnect.com



CHARMOUTH - £650,000



Split level 3/4 bed bungalow with double garage and gardens, sea views + building plot potential on western side of Charmouth

- 3 beds with master en suite
- Lounge
- Dining area
- Sunroom
- Family bathroom
- Ground floor annexe with bedroom4/sitting room
- Shower room
- WC
- Panoramic sea views



CHARMOUTH - £245,000



Immaculate 2 Double Bed apartment within village centre

- Master en suite
- Further double bed
- Large lounge with bay windows
- Kitchen/diner
- Bathroom
- Garage
- Views
- Parking
- Lift

NEW
INSTRUCTION

CHARMOUTH - £228,000

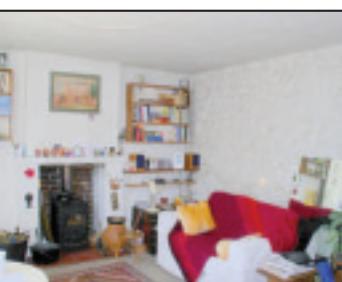
Versatile 4 bed mid terraced house within level walking distance of shops and beach

Kitchen - Dining room - Utility - WC - Lounge - Family Room - 4 bedrooms - Bathroom - GCH - Gardens

NO
CHAIN



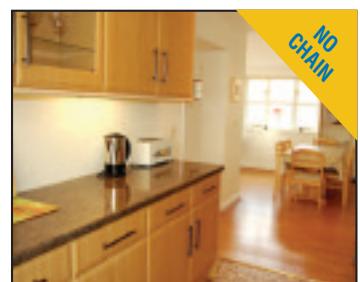
CHARMOUTH - £220,000



Delightful cottage with scope for improvement

- | | | |
|------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| • Kitchen | • Lounge /diner | • Courtyard garden |
| • Bathroom | • 2 bedrooms | • Parking |

CHARMOUTH - £295,000



An immaculate bright modern 3 bed semi-detached house close to the shops and a level walk to the beach

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Entrance Hall | • Utility Room | • Parking |
| • Cloakroom | • Three Bedrooms | • Double-Glazing |
| • Living Room | • Bathroom | • Gas-Fired Central-Heating |
| • Kitchen | • Patio Garden | |
| • Dining/Sun Room | | |



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LYME REGIS - £149,500



- Entrance porch
- Kitchen
- Living room
- Shower room
- Two bedrooms
- Parking

01297 560945
CHARMOUTH
fsbcharmouth@btconnect.com

01297 445666
LYME REGIS
teamfsb@btconnect.com

01297 23939
SEATON
fsbseaton@btconnect.com

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upon completion.**

*** Conditions apply.**

LYME REGIS - £43,995



Style Inn is probably the premier hairdressing salon in Lyme Regis and certainly the longest established. It is sold as a going concern to include all high quality fixtures and fittings. It is located in a prime position just off the main shopping street in a select and quaint shopping precinct.

LYME REGIS £327,000



- Entrance Porch
- Kitchen
- Sitting Room
- 4 Bedrooms
- Dining Room
- 2 Bathrooms
- Conservatory
- Utility room
- Garden Room
- Enclosed Gardens
- Gas Central Heating



LYME REGIS - £650,000



- Established guest house
- 1920's detached property
- Popular location close to the town
- Self-contained annexe / owners' accommodation
- 6 letting rooms with facilities
- Residents lounge and dining room
- Newly fitted kitchen with built-in appliances
- Breakfast room and sun lounge
- Sea and woodland views
- Ample parking and double garage
- Front and rear garden
- Gas CH and Double glazing

ROUSDON - £745,000



- Individual spacious house
- Large living room
- Village setting close to
- Family kitchen / breakfast room
- Lyme Regis
- Dining hall and study
- Potential annexe / B&B
- uPVC double glazed conservatory
- Approx. half acre landscaped garden
- Additional 3.75 acre paddock
- Detached double garage
- 5 bedrooms, 3 en-suite
- Gravelled driveway and parking



UPLYME - £675,000



- Entrance Hall
- Drawing Room
- Dining Room
- Study
- Kitchen
- Utility
- Conservatory
- Master Bedroom
- Three Further Bedrooms
- One With Ensuite
- Two Family Bathrooms
- Swimming Pool
- Gardens
- Summer House

LYME REGIS - £275,000



- Sitting Room
- En Suite Bathroom
- Dining Room/Bedroom 3
- Shower Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Car Parking
- 2 Bedrooms
- Communal Gardens

CHARDSTOCK - £495,000



- Village location
- Individual detached bungalow
- Self contained studio annex
- Detached garage with planning permission
- Kitchen/ breakfast room
- Dining room
- uPVC woodgrain effect double glazing throughout
- Impressive sun lounge/ conservatory
- Three bedroom master en suite
- Family bathroom
- Modern terraced bungalow
- Very well presented
- Good sized accommodation
- Quiet cul-de-sac location
- Some sea views from the rear garden
- Open plan kitchen / dining room
- Two ground floor bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Study area
- First floor bedroom
- Front and rear gardens
- Garage to the rear of the terrace

LYME REGIS - £265,000



- Utility room
- Cloakroom
- Study
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen/ breakfast room
- Master bedroom
- Four further bedrooms
- Two bathrooms
- Double garage
- Gardens

LYME REGIS - £575,000



The Letting Factory.com



BRIDPORT - £595 PCM



A modern and very well presented 2 bedroom first floor apartment in this desirable town centre development, close to all amenities, modern fitted kitchen, bathroom, quality carpets, gas central heating, off street parking and d/glazing.

NR DORCHESTER - £795 PCM



Located in Maiden Newton between Dorchester & Bridport this deceptively very spacious double bed house (converted Post Office), integral garage, 2 receptions, modern kitchen / diner, bathroom, ensuite shower room, big garden, d/glazed windows, quality carpets, neutral decor, close to the village.

WEST BAY - £420 PCM



A one double bedroom ground floor flat in this seaside development, comprising lounge, kitchen, bathroom, sunroom, communal gardens, only a 'stones throw' to the sea and beach at West Bay, garage.

WEST COMPTON - £695 PCM



Located between Dorchester & Bridport, this attractive 3 bed rural cottage on a mansion house development offered in excellent order, spacious lounge / diner, bathroom, modern kitchen/bfast, off street parking, very large garden with veggie patch, stunning views.

BRIDPORT - £550 PCM



A first floor 2 double bedroom flat in this beautiful period building close to the town, spacious lounge, kitchen, bathroom with shower and sep w.c., sash windows, neutral décor, available Feb 2010 unfurnished

MORCOMBELAKE - £595 PCM



A 3 double bedroom first floor maisonette in this rural location boasting very large accommodation throughout, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, garden, garage, stunning views over to Charmouth.

BEAMINSTER - £695 PCM



A modern 3 bedroom semi detached house in cul-de-sac location, spacious lounge, modern kitchen/diner, sep w.c./cloakroom, bathroom, pretty garden with shed, off street parking, gas, d/glazing, pet friendly!

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1 Bedroom - £140,000

Delightful house, not far from the town centre, with allocated parking, central heating, double glazing, fitted kitchen, pretty garden, cheap to run, ideal 1st buy or retirement.

7 Bedrooms - £450,000

Spacious family home, currently running as a guest house with all planning etc, superb opportunity to secure lifestyle business close to sea with views.

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SALES

OFT
Approved code

IT'S PANTO TIME - OH YES IT IS!

Bridport Pantomime Players return with *Jack and the Beanstalk*

AFTER their successful adventures on the high seas with Sinbad the Sailor, the Bridport Pantomime Players are now safely back on shore with JACK AND THE BEANSTALK and contentedly living in Serenia, a happy care-free community ruled by King Hubert (Sue Farrant).

But trouble is just around the corner! Rancid (Jamie Isaacs), a somewhat unpleasant person, the sort of person you want to boo and hiss, has

been sent by the wicked Giant Blunderbore (Tom Staple) to take over Serenia.

Dame Trot (Steve Light) a hard-working widow, has two sons - Jack our hero (Teresa Grinter) and Simple Simon (Jess Ives) and runs the local dairy with a bit of help from Daisy the Cow (front half John Day: back half Tony Glover).

Jack is in love with the King's daughter, Princess Melissa (Emily Deer), but can't afford to marry her; Dame Trot can't afford to pay the rent, and the King's crown gets stolen! Daisy the Cow has to be sold to pay the rent, the Princess is kidnapped and both are transported to the wicked Giant's domain, where Cookie (Sarah Light) a kindly soul, takes care of them both.

With magical help from Fairy Thistledown (Helen Light) good wins over evil - as it does in all the best pantomimes! The two villagers are Gill Nunn and Sarah Pitcher, and together with the chorus, this pantomime will be full of traditional fun and laughter.

Jack and the Beanstalk will be on stage at The Electric Palace in January from Tuesday 26th - Saturday 30th with a matinee on the Thursday

and Saturday. The Box Office is at Pets' Pavilion, South Street, from Monday, January 4th. Open

from 10.00am - 4pm daily, but closes at 12 noon on Saturday.



READY TO SLAY THE GIANT | The chorus of Bridport Pantomime Players, right

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together with

THE LYRIC SCHOOL OF DANCING & THE RHYTHM DANCE CENTRE
are pleased to present

JACK and the BEANSTALK

at THE ELECTRIC
PALACE

January 2010

Tuesday 26th - Saturday 30th at 7.30pm
Matinee - Thursday & Saturday at 2.30pm

TICKETS: £7.00

Senior Citizens & Children under 16 - £6.00

Tuesday only - All tickets £5 (no further reductions)



Box Office at
Pets' Pavilion - South Street, Bridport

from Monday 4th January 2010
Open 10am to 4pm (Monday-Friday) - 10am to 12noon (Saturday)
Telephone 01308 420045

Cash or cheques only

No reductions for final performance

Tickets cannot be exchanged or refunded

Script by Norraan Robbins by arrangement with Samuel French LTD

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(with paying adult)

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Membership expires on 31/1/10

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(with paying adult)

Please complete details below and hand
in to reception to enjoy your FREE SWIM.

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Post Code: _____

Tel No.: _____

Member: Non Member:

Membership expires on 31/1/10



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LeisureReview

MUSIC FOR THE HEAD, HEART AND DANCEFLOOR

elephant talk to play in Thorncombe

'FESTIVAL favourites' Elephant Talk look forward to playing their first gig of 2010 at

Thorncombe Village Hall this Friday, mixing acoustic folk and world music with dance

beats, breaks and electronica.

This original 3-piece band formed in the mid-nineties and have since recorded five albums, toured throughout Europe and played at most of the UK's major festivals.

The band's current line-up are Jon Maybey on guitar, mandolin and foot controlled loops and samples, Sarah Joy on vocals and Matt Tarling on fiddle.

The concert starts at 8.30pm Friday 15th January. Tickets are £5 (£4 concessions) on the door. Bring your own drinks and dancing shoes!

You can listen to the band at www.myspace.com/elephanttalkuk

Elephant Talk



The George

— West Bay —

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Terms and conditions apply*



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Bridport & District Model Railway Club

THE Bridport and District Model Railway Club will be holding a Model Railway Exhibition this Saturday (January 16th) in the Public Hall, Fleet Street, Beaminster from 10am until 5pm.

There will be layouts in a variety of

sizes including the "Wadebridge" as featured recently in the Railway Modeller magazine.

In addition there will be second hand stands as well as refreshments served throughout the day.

What's on at

The Manor West Bexington

The Manor Weekday Lunch Club: join us for lunch in the Cellar Bar. As well as the usual bar menu you will be able to choose from the specials board offering two main courses for £6.00. Those joining us for lunch will automatically be entitled to special deals on forthcoming events.

Friday 22nd January

The Manor Hot Buffet all you can eat for £6.50 per person plus jugs of ale from a guest brewer and our excellent house wine at only £9.95 a bottle. Head Chef Chris Seddon will be on hand to serve you from a selection from the following: Bouillabaisse, curries, hot meats, pies, puddings etc.

Saturday 30th January

Fish and Game Night

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Saturday 14th February

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Diary Dates

THURSDAY JANUARY 14TH

LYME REGIS: Save the Children - soup and pud lunch at the Inn Place, The Pilot Boat, 1 Bridge Street. 12noon - 2pm. £5 includes soup, pudding and coffee. Telephone 01297 560694 or 560402 for more details.

SATURDAY JANUARY 16TH

BROADMAYNE: Raffle, craft, plants, books, jigsaws, cards, local trout, sausages and eggs, cakes and preserves and a chance to sit and chat with a cup of tea or coffee. Held at St Martin's Community Hall (next to the church) from 10am - 12noon. All proceeds to St Martin's Community Hall. Call 01305 852886 for more details.

THURSDAY JANUARY 21ST

DORCHESTER: Dorset Plant Heritage AGM followed by Tim Hooker, Group President and National Collections Officer giving an illustrated talk 'Trees for all seasons'. At Kingston Maurwood College from 7pm. Visitors welcome.

MONDAY JANUARY 25TH

BRIDPORT: Illustrated Talk: 'Beyond Old Harry' by speaker Rod Lawrence. This talk follows on from a previous talk 'Ecology of the Jurassic Coast'. Presented by the Golden Cap Centre of the National Trust. At Bridport United Church Hall, East Street from 2.30pm. Non-members welcome. Telephone 01308 863577 for more details.

TUESDAY JANUARY 26TH

BEAMINSTER: Illustrated Talk: 'Smuggling Tales & Trails' by speaker Rob Curtis. At Beaminster Museum, Whitcombe Road from 3.30pm. All welcome. Telephone 01308 863577 for more details.

FEBRUARY 19TH, 20TH & 21ST

WHITCHURCH CANONICORUM: Today and Yesterday: Exhibition of Life, Work and History in the Char Valley. The past and present in photos and documents from the parishes of Whitchurch Canonorum, Stanton St Gabriel and Wootton Fitzpaine. At the Village Hall from 10am - 5pm. Entry £2, children under 16 free.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20TH

BROADMAYNE: Raffle, craft, plants, books, jigsaws, cards, local trout, sausages and eggs, cakes and preserves and a chance to sit and chat with a cup of tea or coffee. Held at St Martin's Community Hall (next to the church) from 10am - 12noon. All proceeds to St Martin's Community Hall. Call 01305 852886 for more details.

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listings form

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Date

Time

Venue

Town/Village.....

Organised by..... Tel No

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PLEASE NOTE: This is a free service and whilst we endeavour to include all entries, we cannot guarantee all listings submitted will be published. Please use one form per event you wish to submit.

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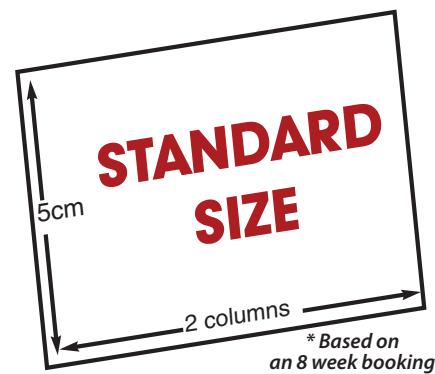
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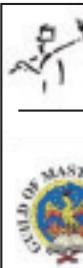
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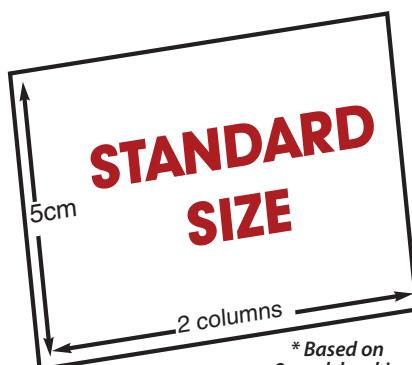
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Briton to lead Kia's European sales push

KIA MOTORS Europe has announced the appointment of Bernard Bradley as Vice President Sales, as the company continues to add new resources and strength to its sales organisation in Europe.

A 42-year old Briton, Bradley brings a wealth of motor industry knowledge to his new role at Kia stretching over almost two decades in the business. Over the past 19 years he has gained experience in selling through multiple distribution channels, in key roles at Vauxhall, Volkswagen, Volvo, BMW and most recently as General

Manager-Cars at Honda UK, where he headed the car business across all functions.

During his tenure at Honda UK he was acknowledged for his role in driving growth, leading and managing change. In 2008 he was named as the 2006 winner in the 'Rising Stars' sales awards by the leading automotive trade publication, Automotive Management.

Taking over his new position in Frankfurt from 1 January 2010, Bradley will report to Paul Philpott, COO of KME.

Announcing the appointment, Paul Philpott commented: "As a powerful and dynamic European team, we are quickly making progress in creating a strong organization, leveraging and adding new resources in our region. Given the importance of a strong sales organization in achieving our key objectives, we are delighted to welcome Bernard to this new role. KME will benefit greatly from his unrivalled, thorough and in-depth sales leadership skills

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Dynamic next-generation Ford Focus debuts

■ Next-generation Ford Focus makes its worldwide debut at 2010 North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) in Detroit.

■ Focus spearheads Ford's new generation of global C-cars, all based on a common platform that will underpin up to 10 vehicles around the world and account for two million units of annual production by 2012.

THE next-generation Ford Focus makes its worldwide debut today at the North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) in Detroit, providing customers with more affordable technologies and features than ever in this segment, as well as detailed craftsmanship, outstanding fuel economy and a new standard for driving quality.

Both the four-door saloon and five-door hatchback body styles of the next-generation Focus are previewed prior to their production start for Europe and North America late in 2010 and market launch early in 2011.

Production of the next-generation Ford Focus will begin simultaneously in Europe and North America in late 2010, with individual market launches starting early in 2011. Initial production will be concentrated at the Saarlouis (Germany), Michigan (United States) and Chongqing (China) Assembly Plants.

The new Focus will be one of up to 10 unique models to be built from Ford's new C-car platform, which is expected to generate total sales in all regions of two million units annually by 2012. The first of these will be the new Ford C-MAX and Ford Grand C-MAX – unveiled at the 2009 Frankfurt Motor Show – for launch in Europe in the second half of 2010.

"Global customers increasingly want smaller cars with outstanding fuel economy, but without sacrificing any of the style, technology, connectivity and driving quality they demand from larger vehicles," explained Derrick Kuzak, Ford's group vice president of Global Product Development.

"Our next generation of C-cars – led by the exciting new Focus – will clearly show that Ford is ready to meet that challenge," said

Kuzak.

Taking kinetic design to the next level

The two models share a sporty and dynamic character, marking the next evolution of Ford's acclaimed kinetic design form language. The kinetic design approach uses bold vehicle designs to capture the feeling of energy in motion, so that cars look like they are moving – even when they are standing still.

With its striking front end, sleek profile, dramatic rising beltline and athletic stance, the new Focus clearly telegraphs the rewarding driving experience that awaits customers when they take to the road.

This dynamic quality is reinforced by the distinctive design of the interior. The new Focus has an extremely modern, cockpit-style interior, with the stylish centre console wrapped around the driver and providing outstanding access to the vehicle's major controls and display panels.

A key element of the interior is the quality of craftsmanship. The cabin's bold and contemporary graphics, the sculptured shape of the soft-touch instrument panel and the choice of superior trim materials all help to give occupants the feeling that they are travelling in a premium-class car.

Unmatched driving quality

Introduced in 1998, the original Ford Focus brought new levels of agility and responsiveness to the C-segment. The all-new Focus plans to raise the benchmark once more, targeting class-leading driving quality that blends outstanding steering precision and road feedback with significantly improved refinement and ride control.

Engineers have updated the innovative suspension concepts from prior models, developing optimised new designs for the "control blade" multilink rear suspension and the semi-isolated front and rear subframes. The chassis design is complemented by a completely new Electric Power Assist Steering system, which has been carefully tuned to deliver pure and precise responses at high speed while remaining light and manoeuvrable for parking.

Intuitive technology enhances convenience and safety

The technology package of the new Focus promises not only clear leadership in the C-segment, but also includes features customers in larger, more premium segments would find surprising. The new technologies have been designed to be simple and highly intuitive to use, while enhancing both convenience and safety for the vehicle occupants including driver connect technology, MyFord, which provides the driver with a state-of-the-art combination of controls and display screens to operate the key vehicle features.

MyFord is complemented by a new generation of Ford's powerful SYNC® connectivity package, which includes a sophisticated voice control system, Bluetooth and satellite navigation, along with connection points for a variety of devices and media players.

Strength and safety

The Focus platform provides an incredibly strong and stiff structure, which not only benefits vehicle dynamics and refinement but also provides the basis for enhanced crash performance. High-strength steels are used extensively in the next-generation Focus body

shell. These advanced materials help the structure meet the most stringent crash legislation across world markets, while minimising the vehicle's weight.

Quality and craftsmanship in every detail

The new Focus will make significant strides in reducing cabin noise, promising a quiet cabin environment. This refinement complements the fresh new interior design and higher craftsmanship levels to create a premium feel akin to larger vehicles.

Each component in the vehicle that the customer will touch, see, hear or even smell has been subjected to rigorous analysis to ensure that it will exceed an owner's expectations. Particular attention has been given to the quality of interior trim materials, and the colour matching, gaps, flushness and tolerances where one part meets another.

The new Focus will go on sale in the UK in the first quarter of 2011.



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VAUXHALL RETAIL SALES END YEAR ON YET ANOTHER BUMPER MONTH

FOLLOWING a year-on-year retail sales increase of 128 per cent in November, Vauxhall has yet again proved its appeal to user-chooser buyers by posting December retail sales up 54 per cent over the same month in 2008.

Vauxhall posted 6050 retail sales in December, which not only exceeded the 3925 sales from De-

cember 2008, when the recession first took hold, but also the 5881 retail sales recorded in December 2007.

This brings to a close what has been an outstanding last quarter for Vauxhall, with a total of 18,884 retail sales recorded, a 53 per cent increase over the same period in the previous year.

"A major contributor to this success has been the new Astra," said Rory Harvey, Vauxhall's Retail Sales Director. "In December 2008 the old model was running sixth in its segment, but a year on the Mk 6 has helped us achieve third place with retail sales boosted from 493 to 1969 units – a 299 per cent im-

provement. We've also seen Corsa retail sales rise by 37 per cent, with 2857 units registered."

But Vauxhall's success didn't stop there. Retail sales of commercial vehicles grew by 18 per cent year on year, with 554 units registered in December 2009, contributing to a final quarter increase of 27 per cent over the same period in 2008.

"We're looking forward to building on this success in 2010," said Rory. "With new Astra coming on stream after its launch last month, followed by the new Movano joining the commercial vehicle line-up and the new Meriva in June, we hope to deliver plenty more great retail sales stories."

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FORD PAYS VAT INCREASE

FORD has announced 2010 new car offers which offset this month's VAT rise.

As VAT returns to 17.5 per cent, Ford is offsetting the 2.5 per cent increase to the end of February.

With the Government's scrap-
page incentive scheme also ex-
piring at the end of February
2010, market leader Ford is
braced for extra busy winter trad-

ing.

Ford's VAT offset applies to all car ranges from compact Ka to seven-seater Galaxy. Even greater discounts remain available for scrappage customers replacing cars at least eight years old. Scrappage incentives of at least £2,000 have attracted an extra 35,500 customers to the blue oval.

Nigel Sharp, Ford Britain managing director, said: "Ford is offering some relief from the cold, tough start to 2010 by delaying the VAT impact on its new car prices to March.

"Combined with the scrappage deals still available for customers with older cars, they present plenty of reasons to visit a Ford dealer this winter."



Snow leads to increased car insurance disputes

USED Car Expert magazine has seen a significant increase in number of enquiries via its website www.UsedCarExpert.co.uk relating to disputes with insurance companies over the value of their car, which have been written off by snow-related accidents.

Consumers seem most frustrated when their car was written off because someone else collided with it while it was parked in a street. The icy conditions, and poor visibility are resulting in car accidents and as a result insurance claims.

Editor Matt Tumbridge said, "The Government's gritting policy means lots of side streets are ice rinks and even at slow speeds, sadly cars are going out of control and in urban areas the first thing they hit is another car."

"It is particularly frustrating for car owners who weren't even at the car when the accident happened. In several cases the person responsible left no contact details so the victim is not only having to argue over the value of the car but also losing their no claims bonus and facing the prospect of seeing

their premium rise."

On the problem of insurance valuations he said, "Most insurers use a trade publication to value the car and offer the minimum they can get away with.

That is unfair and unrealistic. The car owner has a right to a pay out that will enable them to pay full retail price for a car of equal condition. No one can ever be 100% certain that a car will be reliable when they buy it, so consumers who have lost their car in this way deserve to be able to buy from a dealer where they get a warranty."

Tumbridge's advice for car owners is, "Obtain a price from our website for both the national average and regional average retail price. Then find several cars for sale in the area at dealers and compile it all in a robust explanation of why the insurance company's valuation is not fair. If there are cars available at the price the insurer suggests, include those, highlighting how they are not the same as your car. Usually they will be higher mileage, have less service history or less equipment. Most insurers will see sense when given evidence like that."

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FREEZE UP CAUSES LEAGUE TO ABANDON ALL GAMES

THE lack of match action gives rise to an opportunity to just take stock of the season so far, as well as recalling some of the League's long, and distinguished history in the form of an A to Z.

A is for Arthur Gage Cup. The Final is played on Sector Lane, home of ex-Perry Street League club Axminster Town who are currently performing in the South-West Peninsula League Division One (East).

The current cup holders are Pymore who beat West-Dorset rivals Charmouth 4-3 on penalties following a thrilling 3-3 draw after extra-time. This trophy is open to teams from Division One with Crewkerne Reserves (five wins) the most successful team in the competition's 59-year history.

B is for Bill Bailey Cup. The current holders are Luso-Chard who secured their First ever Perry Street League silverware with a 2-0 replay victory over Chard Rangers Reserves at Combe.

The replayed final, a rarity in these days of penalty shoot-outs, took place after the initial game at Beaminster ended goal less and referee Lance Turner deemed conditions too dark to take the spot-kicks.

The most successful team in the competitions' 37-year-old history is Powratic. The defunct Ilminster-based factory team have their name on the trophy in four different guises; Rangers, Ilminster, Sports and Reserves.

C is for Coronation Cup. The showpiece Boxing Day Final threw up a shock this season when South Petherton suffered their biggest defeat for seven years as they were beaten 4-0 by Lyme Regis in an unexpectedly one-sided affair. The win moves Lyme to sec-

ond in the all-time list of winners with seven triumphs, two behind leaders Merritt Rovers.

D is for Daisy Hutchings. The DH Cup is the Perry Street League's equivalent of the FA cup with teams from four of the five Divisions competing for the trophy.

Second Division Millwey Rise produced a major shock by winning the trophy for the first time last season. Shepton Beauchamp hold the record for most wins with six (in-a-row) in the 80s when teams from the top Division were also included.

E is for Eastlee Park home of Farway United. Farway are the most Westerly of the clubs in the League and have remained loyal despite several ofers to join the Devon & Exeter League.

The Ground is situated in a deep valley in East Devon and as such does have one or two problems with drainage, but the club, led by stalwart manager Andy Bailey, keeps plugging away and looks well-set for a push to regain their Premier Division status.

F is First Avenue home of Millwey Rise. Millwey are not known as the Slopers without good reason.

The First Avenue incline is probably the steepest in the entire League – many a full-back has stumbled, gasping, back up the hill chasing a teenage substitute winger in the last minute of injury-time!

G is for goals, the more the merrier! This season's current average is 5.12 per game.

H is for Hall. At 74-years young Bob Hall is still doing sterling work as the League's oldest referee. Bob

has also donated the Fair play trophy award which is currently held by Pymore.

I is for (Devon, Dorset, Somerset) Intermediate Cup. Lyme Regis have won the Dorset version six times since 1995 with Beaminster chipping-in with one triumph back in 1994.

The closest a current PSL team has come to winning the Devon Cup was back in 2003 when Farway United were beaten in the Final.

The Somerset Intermediate Cup is slightly different in as much as it's the Junior Cup's 'little brother'. Ilminster Town Reserves were the last PSL team to lift the trophy back in 2001-02.

J is for John Lukins. The much-respected reporter/historian and keeper of the PSL archives.

An ex-goalkeeper for, amongst others Merritt Rovers, John has been writing about the League for more than 50-years and was made a life-member back in the Summer – a person this writer has the upmost respect for.

K is for Kenny Hodges Cup. The current holders are FC First who beat Crewkerne Rangers 3-1 in last year's Final, in what appears to have been, their one and only season in the League.

L is for local-derby. Most clubs are contained within quite a small proximity but geographically and historically some of the more stand-out local clashes currently are; Crewkerne Town v Merritt Rovers, Ilminster Colts v Dowlish & Donyatt, Lyme Regis v Charmouth, Thorcombe v Winsham United and South Petherton v Barrington.

M is for Millwey Rise. Simon Denslow is

the League's current top-scorer with 25 for Crewkerne Rangers. Denslow, the holder of the Golden Boot after bagging 44 goals last season, has also struck seven of the League's 74 hat-tricks.

The top individual performance so far has come from Beaminster's Tristan Gale who scored a magnificent seven in the 13-0 annihilation of Charmouth back in September.

Q is for quality. The League still runs its senior and under 18s pick-of-the-League teams de-

M is for Mockeridge – the most prolific goal scorer still currently playing in the League. Steve, 51, is currently turning out for Combe B in Division four where he has scored twice this season to take his tally up to 687.

N is for no joy. Charmouth Reserves have gone 10 matches without a win. Meanwhile White Horse have gone 28 games with no clean sheet.

O is for Oxleaze home of West & Middle Chinnock. The Chinnocks returned to the League after an absence of more than 25 years when Haselbury disbanded on the eve of the 2007-08 season.

Immediate promotion and a place in Division One followed as manager Nick Eckland led his side to runners-up spot behind Champions Chard United.

The following season the Chinnocks consolidated their Division status finishing fourth and picked-up the Division One knock-out Cup in the process.

P is for prolific. Simon Denslow is the League's current top-scorer with 25 for Crewkerne Rangers. Denslow, the holder of the Golden Boot after bagging 44 goals last season, has also struck seven of the League's 74 hat-tricks.

The top individual performance so far has come from Beaminster's Tristan Gale who scored a magnificent seven in the 13-0 annihilation of Charmouth back in September.

Q is for quality. The League still runs its senior and under 18s pick-of-the-League teams de-



A GOOD START: Nick Eckland - leading Chinnocks to Premier?



PROLIFIC: Crewkerne Rangers' Simon Denslow, 25 goals already



LEADING THE WAY: Steve Mockeridge, 687 goals and counting!

Final.

Overall top performers are Millwey Rise who have lifted the 48-year-old trophy on five occasions, including three times in the last seven seasons.

W is for Waytown Hounds. The Hounds are the League's newest team having made the switch from Sunday League football.

The Netherbury-based team have already made a great start and are challenging for promotion to Division Three. In addition the new boys are in the Semi-Final of the Reg Egon Cup.

X is for ex-teams. FC First, Chard Town Colts are the latest additions to a list that includes amongst others; C&K Wadeford, North Coker, Seaton Town A, Chard Meat, Chaffcombe, Axmouth United and Upottery.

Y is for youch! Every player has been on the wrong end of a hammering at some time during their playing careers.

The biggest in recent times was White Horse Reserves' 22-0 demolition of hapless Chard United Reserves back in 2004-05. The Chard team were also beaten 21-0 by Hawkchurch Reserves in the same season.

This term Charmouth hold the dubious record going down 13-0 to Beaminster.

Z is for zero – zero. There have been just two goal less draws so far this season (Forton Rangers v Farway United and Fivehead United v Combe A) – an average of one every 116 games!

WEST DORSET FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

HUTCH DENIES RIFT WITH CHAIRMAN OVER SIGNINGS

IAN Hutchinson has hit back at suggestions that three players were recently signed without his knowledge.

Rival local newspaper reports claimed the Terras manager knew nothing about the arrivals of loan duo Stephen Read and Scott Bennett, and non-contract signing, Pierre Joseph-Dubois, and had suggested that chairman George Rolls had brought the three players into the View From Stadium behind the manager's back.

But Hutchinson denies this, revealing that Bennett and Joseph-Dubois were his signings.

He said: "Scott and Pierre were both players I wanted and who I went and got. It has been said that I knew nothing about them coming in, but I did. They were my signings."

"It's true that I wasn't keen on bringing Stephen in and his arrival came about due to the chairman's contacts. I told Stephen the score right from the start but, to be fair to the lad, he's knuckled down and shown a great attitude."

"All three lads are good players and I'm pleased they have been added to the squad. Certainly they have all fitted in really well and I can see them playing a big part in our fight for survival."

Hutchinson's future at Weymouth had been in doubt over the Christmas period with rumours that former boss Garry Hill was about to take over.

However, clear the air talks with Rolls has resulted in the manager and his assistant Andy Mason, signing contracts until the end of the season.

"George and I have had a good chat", added Hutchinson. "And I'm pleased we have things sorted. At the end of the day we both want the same thing and that's the team staying up and moving forward beyond that."

"Things were said and rumours were flying, but it's all behind us now and George, Andy and I are all working towards the same goal."

The Terras entertain Chelmsford on Saturday with Hutchinson confident of continuing the decent run of form that has seen them climb to within five points of Conference South safety.

"The weather hasn't helped us in recent days", he admitted. "What with games off and there being no training facilities because of the ice. But the boys have still got in and so we have had sessions on the beach which has been a bit different."

"The attitude and spirit in the camp is amazing with everyone enjoying life and determined to keep the decent run going. It's about being together in this and that includes the players, directors and the supporters who have played such an important part."

"I keep saying it and will say it again. I am convinced we are good enough to get out of the relegation places and we're determined to prove just that. Chelmsford are going well and will be a tough side to play against. But these are the sort of teams we need to be beating if we're to achieve our target."

◆ WEYMOUTH'S fight against relegation from Blue Square South has been boosted by the extension of three loan signings.

The first to agree an extended stay at the View From Stadium was Jamie McGuinness.

The 19-year-old defender has made a big impression since joining from Rushden and Diamonds and boss Ian Hutchinson is delighted to have got the deal done.

The manager said: "Jamie has fitted in really well and has made a big difference to the side."

"Getting him for another month is a real coup and it bodes well as we go into what is a vital stage of the season with the fight against relegation on in force."

Also staying another month is Exeter City youngster Scott Bennett, who scored in the New Year's day win over Dorchester Town.

But, as the manager explained, the defender could

be recalled by the Grecians at any time.

Hutchinson explained: "We've got Scott for another month which is great. It looked like he'd be going back to Exeter but they have agreed he can stay."

"There is a clause in the deal that he can return with 24 hours notice but hopefully that won't happen."

One player who won't be going anywhere from now and the end of the season is Stephen Reed.

The ex-Terra is back at the club on loan from Macclesfield with the League Two club having sanctioned his stay until the end of the campaign.

"Stephen has been first class since coming back", added Hutchinson, "And so I'm really pleased he's staying. He's really fitted in well and has had got stuck in and is definitely up for the fight that we are faced with between now and the end of the season."

COUTTS JOINS MAGPIES

FORMER Terras captain James Coutts has joined Dorchester Town on a non-contract basis.

Caretaker manager Ashley Vickers had tried to sign the midfielder earlier in the season after he returned from a five month spell in America, but despite their friendship he decided to join fellow Blue Square South rivals Newport County.

However despite playing several games for them the Welsh side who sit atop the league at present couldn't guarantee paying Coutts following a cut in the budget at Christmas, and he decided to leave.

"We are delighted that James has signed. We are great friends and I have been after him for a while. He is a proven Conference player and will add that little bit of quality and creativity that perhaps we have been lacking recently."

"He has signed non-contract terms at present and we will see how things go. He can get regular games and we will benefit from his experience. He has ambitions to play at a higher level and hopefully this will be a shop window to show what he can do and allow him to move on in the future. In the mean time both parties

benefit."

Coutts became Vickers' sixth signing in his period as manager, and whilst he is not under pressure to reduce his squad, Harry Montacute has gone out on a month's loan to Gillingham Town and Ollie Barnes to Clevedon Town.

Jamie Symes' proposed trial with Blackpool this week has been postponed due to the inclement weather. He will now travel to the Championship side on January 31st for a five day trial.

BEES HOPE TO GET BACK ON TRACK

WITH last night's rearranged game with Chard Town postponed, Bridport like every other club in the country is facing a backlog of games, although manager Trevor Senior is not too worried at the moment.

"It's not too horrific at the moment, we just want to get on and play a run of games," said Senior who must now prepare his side for their next fixture on Saturday away to Shepton Mallet who sit just one place and two points above the Bees.

The former Reading striker will be able to call upon the services of Darren Watts who was unavailable last week due to work commitments, and also Simon Evans.

Evans who left Weymouth and signed for Dorchester recently will be available to play for Bridport following an agreement between both Senior and Magpies boss Ashley Vickers and Evans.

"Ashley has kindly agreed that Simon can play for us under dual registration unless he needs him. This is great for all parties as it means Simon is getting regular football."

The reserves are hopeful of playing their Dorset Senior Trophy match against Wincanton on Saturday. The second round tie has been postponed several times due to the weather and will take precedent over the league fixture providing the St Mary's pitch has thawed out.

BRIDPORT SKITTLES

CUP fixtures for week beginning Monday, January 18th:

Mens Nominations Individuals -

1st Round (eight winners)

Monday, January 18th - Tiger.

M. Powell, G. Brooks, S. Lee, H. Mills, A. Cauldwell, M. Horton, S. Pitcher, D. Cooper, M. Gurd, R. Pincombe, C. Willcox, C. Dare, L. Dare, C. Barnes.

Ladies Pairs First Round (12 byes four winners)

Monday, January 18th - Clock.

V. Cozens and A. Wiscombe, S. Hearl and J. Malcolm, S. Tompkins and J. Dawe, M. Hansford and S. Galpin, C. Taylor and J. Arnold, S. Blandford and J. Parsons, T.

Sadler and K. Johnson.

Over 58s - First Round (eight winners each alley)

Wednesday, January 20th - Bradpole Club.

D. Mauder, J. Scotton, D. Salter, T. Davis, A. Wiscombe, V. Cozens, A. Huxter, M. Bollen, G. Brown, G. Legg, N. Pye, J. Brooks, V. Burt, B. Lee, M. Crabb.

Friday, January 22nd - King Charles.

S. Gale, M. Hansford, M. Chivers, P. Hansford, G. Legg, Joanna Scotton, C. Hopkins, S. Bulled, B. Herbert, C. Langdon, P. Scott, F. Bowditch, G. Barnes, R. Tuck, B. Adams.

WEYMOUTH CRICKET NEWS

Kiwi Fallon in to help push for title

WEYMOUTH Cricket Club will be pinning their Dorset Premier Division hopes on a Kiwi this summer.

The club have confirmed that New Zealand all-rounder Andrew Fallon will be joining the club, subject to international clearance.

The deal has been done with the help of former Seasiders' overseas star Glen Dawson, who is now living and working back in his homeland.

New Weymouth captain Paul Payne explained: "Andrew is a first class, left arm, opening bowler. He's 28 and so has plenty of experience and bats in the middle order which is just what we need."

"We played against him when we toured New Zealand a couple of seasons ago and he's very talented. He's also a top lad off the park and so I think he's just what we need."

"Having a really good opening bowler at this level is a must. We have seen the merits of that at Weymouth with previous overseas players and hopefully Andrew will help give us that edge."

He added: "The contracts have been signed and Andrew is due over in good time for the start of the season in the spring. He just needs to get his clearance from the authorities but that should be a formality."

One player who may miss those early stages of the campaign is Payne himself.

The ex-Terras goalkeeper is recovering from surgery on his shoulder following a year of injury problems.

He explained: "I went in for the op last week and I think there was far more to do than the surgeon had first expected. There was damage to my tendons and cartilage and so I've had it all fixed, tidied up and repaired."

"Hopefully I'll be okay for the start of the season, but I will miss the warm up games and nets so it may take a few weeks before I'm fully match fit. I don't think I'll ever be able to throw or bowl like I used to, but hopefully this will be an end to the problem because the last year or so has been a nightmare."

With Poole providing Weymouth's opening day opposition in 2010, Payne said it was a case of 'hitting the ground running'.

He added: "Any game would have been tough but Poole is about as tough as it gets for a season's opener. They have been one of the best sides over the past 20 years and we'll really need to be switched on for this one."

"But in some ways playing them early will be an advantage. Certainly we'll quickly know how good we are and what will be needed to challenge this coming summer."

Weymouth begin their indoor training at Portland's Boscowan Centre on January 20th with a session between 6pm and 8pm.

All players old and new are welcome with training being taken by Seasiders' head coach, Sean Fitzgerald.

BOB BUCKLER RACING

Weather makes life difficult for the smaller yards

THE current weather is playing havoc with the whole of the country, and sport is no exception.

With no let up in the immediate future only those football and rugby clubs with enough resources are able to get games on.

Horse racing is particularly susceptible and Haydock Park recently had to abandon one of their prestigious fixtures just two hours before racing despite having spent £32,000 on covers for the course.

Some flat racing is taking place at all weather tracks and indeed Southwell is putting on a special fixture for national hunt flat races (bumpers) today.

In the meantime trainers have to try to keep their horses fit and well and whilst the bigger stables like Paul Nicholls at Ditcheat are able to invest in their own gritter to make a path to the all weather gallops, smaller yards like Bob Buckler's are not so lucky.

He uses Richard Barber's all weather track at Seaborough normally but this is 1 1/2 miles from his yard at Henley.

"The lanes are too snowy and icy either to ride the horses there or even transport them; if the lorry were to slip off the road it could be disastrous," said Buckler.

"We use the walker and have made a track around the stables. We also occasionally get in the

fields where there is snow and we know the ground underneath is not cut up, but it's difficult!

"We also have to thaw the pipes around the yard to ensure running water."

With most of the yards bumper horses having raced just before the big freeze, Buckler is not too worried about races for them.

"Southwell would be tricky and possibly dangerous to get to, and anyway with 260 horses declared for the six races it's not certain you would get in."

"You would also want to be certain of having three runners definitely starting to make it economic to go."

Rugby round-up

Bridport promotion bid on course

**DORSET & WILTS LEAGUE
DIVISION TWO (SOUTH)**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sherborne II	12	11	0	1	494	84	22
North Dorset III	12	9	1	2	200	85	19
Bournemouth II	12	9	0	3	413	133	18
BRIDPORT II	12	8	0	4	307	217	16
Elliham & Ringwood	11	8	0	3	259	186	16
South Wilts	12	6	1	5	251	277	13
Fordingbridge II	12	5	1	6	187	205	11
DORCHESTER II	11	5	0	6	120	188	10
Swanage & W III	12	3	1	8	90	229	5
Wheatheaf Cab Cr	11	2	0	9	106	319	4
Salisbury III	12	2	0	10	134	307	0
Lytchett Minster II	11	0	0	11	95	426	4

BOTH the Dorchester and Bridport second sides compete in the Dorset & Wilts League Division Two (South) and, while the former is a workmanlike outfit that resides in the mid-table and one who will give anyone a game, the latter, although currently a couple of places above its local rivals, has disappeared rather.

It has, only occasionally played the quality rugby that is regularly shown last season and, on occasion, individual commitment has been lacking.

**DORSET & WILTS LEAGUE
DIVISION THREE (SOUTH)**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
East Dorset	10	10	0	0	354	39	20
Poole	10	7	1	2	203	106	15
North Dorset IV	10	7	0	3	184	191	14
Bournemouth IV	10	5	0	5	281	184	10
Wincanton	10	4	1	5	215	216	9
Oakmeadens III	10	5	0	5	218	118	8
WEYMOUTH II	10	4	0	6	145	204	8
Blandford II	10	2	0	8	122	261	4
Wimborne III	9	3	0	6	97	170	2
Swanage & W IV	9	1	0	8	87	417	2

THE Weymouth second side occupy a place in the lower half of this league and give every appearance of enjoying their rugby, which is as it should be.

PREVIEW

Weather permitting, the league programme will resume on Saturday next. BRIDPORT entertain PUDDLETOWN, a side from the lower reaches of their division and, although these opponents will most certainly come and "have a good go", I do not foresee anything other than a very comfortable home win.

It will be a rather different story for DORCHESTER however for they travel to near neighbours SHERBORNE. Dorchester did come out on top against this opposition earlier in the season, but it was not by much and they will have to be at their best if they are to win the return. I think they might just do so, but it will be close.

WEYMOUTH too have a tricky afternoon in prospect, for they visit OAKMEDIANS 2nd who, although they were promoted at last season's end, have made quite a mark in the league this term. I think home advantage will tell in this one.

I think that both the Bridport and Weymouth second sides face rather drab afternoons. The former will certainly have its hands full at Fordingbridge seconds, as with the latter when it entertains the Oakmedians third side.

Dorchester seconds will have an easier task at home to Swanage & Wareham thirds.

FIXTURES 16th January - Bridport v Puddletown (home); Bridport 2nd v Fordingbridge 2nd (away); Chard v Bristol Harlequins (home); Chard 2 v Spare Week; Chard 3rd v Wellington 3rd (home); Chard Colts v North Petherton (away); Crewkerne v Martock (away); Dorchester v Sherborne (away); Dorchester 2nd v Swanage & Wareham 3rd (home); Honiton Colts v Wadebridge (home); Sidmouth v Paignton (home); Sidmouth 2nd v Paignton 2nd (away); Sidmouth 3rd v Exmouth 3rd (home); Sidmouth Colts v Exmouth Colts (home); Weymouth v Oakmedians 2nd (away); Weymouth 2nd v Oakmedians 3rd (home).

■ SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF ■

NATIONAL HUNT RACING: EXETER, whose attendances have been hit harder than most by bad weather this season, is offering admission discounts for the first time, at two meetings next month, on Wednesday 3rd and Sunday 14th, and on March 9th, 23rd and 31st.

Tickets must be bought in advance through the hotline 0844 579 3005. There is a very special offer for the Valentine's day fixture, which coincides with a blank weekend for point-to-point racing in Devon and Cornwall.

Two grandstand and paddock tick-

ets cost £10. Call the hotline and quote 'exval' to book.

FOOTBALL: WEYMOUTH'S Jake Bryan had the thrill of his life during a family visit to Sheffield recently when the 14-year-old from Westham met his footballing hero Ryan Giggs and a host of other sports stars.

Jake, a big Manchester United supporter, caught up with his hero outside the Sheffield Arena which played host to the BBC Sports Personality of the Year show.

Aside from Giggs, he also met cy-

drew Flintoff, Formula 1 world Champion Jenson Button and presenter and ex-tennis player, Sue Barker.

Jake explained: "I was up visiting relatives with my family, and my cousins and I went down to the centre before the show started."

"We saw all sorts of stars going in and it was amazing." Meeting Ryan Giggs was great, he was really friendly and it was fantastic that he actually won the award, but everyone who went in was great. They stopped and chatted, signed autographs and spent time saying hello to people."

WEST DORSET 2009 SPORTS REVIEW

Another exciting year of sport in West Dorset brought joy and disappointment for competitors. **STUART BROOM** and **HOWARD LARCOMBE** review some of the highlights.

JANUARY



◆ **SUPERB:** A brilliant run by Annabelle Arnold was the highlight of the West Dorset Area Primary School's Race held at The Sir John Colfox School. Annie from St Mary's Thorcombe covered the one mile course in 9 minutes 54 seconds to win the girls race by over 30 seconds..

FEBRUARY



◆ **SNOW BOUND:** Snow interrupted the sporting calendar in February. Dorchester Town continued to train at the Jewson Stadium under new manager Brian O'Donnell.



JUNE

◆ **RECORDS BROKEN:** On a day that heralded the first horse mascot race, four track records were broken at The Sir John Colfox School sports day.



◆ **TAGGED:** Over 240 primary school pupils, both boys and girls competed in the Inter-schools 2009 South West Tag Festival qualifier held at Bridport Rugby Football Club. The action shows the battle of the St Mary's schools – Beaminster against Bridport.

MARCH



◆ **SUCCESS FOR BUCKLER:** Bob Buckler landed the biggest win of his career when Niche Market won the Powers Whiskey Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse on Easter Monday.

APRIL



◆ **THE BIG KICK-OFF:** Bridport Football Club prepare for the new season with new manager Trevor Senior at the helm.

MAY



◆ **DIAMOND GEEZERS:** Two of the original Netherbury Football Club members helped players and officials from across the decades celebrate the club's diamond anniversary.

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER



◆ CHAMPIONS: Dorchester 3rd's captain Pete Tucker pops the bubbly as his team celebrate winning the Division Seven title. They went through the season undefeated having been promoted the previous year.

OCTOBER



◆ ON THE UP:
After being relegated the season before, Beaminster Ladies Hockey team (pictured left) finally found their form, although here they had a narrow squeak in this victory over opponents Yeovil 2nds.

JULY



◆ JEDD PROPELLED: Uplyme & Lyme Regis' wicket-keeper batsman Jedd Whittington cuts powerfully for four in the home match with Lewdown. The club's first XI had a tough season in the East Devon D Division - managing to avoid relegation on the last day of the season.

◆ CORONATION CUP KINGS: Lyme Regis marked their 125th anniversary season by winning the Coronation Cup for the seventh time.

The Seasiders shocked opponents South Petherton by storming to a 4-0 half-time lead in Boxing Day's final at Combe St Nicholas' Slades Cross Ground.

Petherton had no answer and the second-half ended goal less to give Robin Townsend (pictured back row, extreme left) his first trophy as Lyme manager.

Mascot at the front is Owen Clifton.



DECEMBER



NOVEMBER

◆ ON GUARD: Allan Jay MBE presents Ladies Champion Rosie Dakar with her trophy watched by runner-up Ellie Madden (left) and third placed Judy Clarke following West Dorset Fencing Club's first championships.

West Dorset Swimming

CELEBRITY TV chef Lesley Waters was just one of the VIPs attending West Dorset Swimming Club's last event of the season, their Christmas Open Meet at Bridport, where, as the club's President, she presented the awards to winning swimmers, including a gold to her own daughter nine-year-old Scout Macpherson for the 50m backstroke.

More swimmers than ever before took part in the annual competition with clubs coming from all over the region; visitors included Bridport Barracudas, Dawlish Swimming Club, Millfield SC, Street and District SC, Tornadoes of South Dorset, Ilminster SC and Chard SC.

The competition was declared a resounding success by all with West Dorset taking home a magnificent tally of 73 medals including 14 golds.

The Warriors were delighted to welcome back the Mayor of Bridport Cllr Martin Ray and the Mayoress Cllr Mrs Maggie Ray who formally opened proceedings, while West Dorset District Councillor David Barrett also helped with the presentations.

The accolade of Top Warrior went to 11 year old Harrison Yarnold, who swam an impressive eight events in the competition. The youngster displayed a high standard across the board finishing in the top six in all of his swims.

Yarnold found himself on the top of the podium for the 100m freestyle and finished second in the 100m backstroke, 100m Individual Medley and the 50m freestyle.

with a third place in the 100m butterfly and 50m backstroke.

Janet Hewitt, head coach of the Dorchester-based outfit commented: "Harrison earned his award as he showed such great consistency across a range of events. He was in a highly competitive field as we had a lot of entries in his age group - I'm very pleased with him."

Meanwhile 14-year-old Frankie Taylor was top female Warrior despite being bottom of her age group.

Taylor swam six events, gaining five seconds and one third place, whilst in the 16-years and over category, Lauren Podger and Keziah Element earned their club a huge amount of points with Podger capturing three firsts and a second, while Element touched first in the 100m backstroke and gained four further top three places.

It was a success story for the older boys too as 16-year-old Jordan Trewartha put on an excellent display finishing first in the 100m butterfly and capturing five further second places. Team mate Peter Thornton, 13, chalked up four straight wins in the butterfly and freestyle events.

For the younger boys there was also a high success rate with nine-year-old William Blackledge proudly winning two seconds and a third place.

Best Boy and Best Girl awards went to brother and sister Tommy Francis and Tarina Francis, both of Chard Swimming Club.

Hewitt added: "I'm delighted with all my swimmers - they did West Dorset proud."

She thanked all the parents who helped organise and run the meet as well as the volunteer officials. Hewitt continued: "The Christmas Open Meet is our principal fundraising event of the year and we've had magnificent support."

"We're lucky that we managed to raise more than we dared hoped for; we'll be ploughing around half of what we raised into equipment for the new pool being built in Dorchester."

"Because the Warriors have committed to raising money for the benefit of the whole community, people are supporting us even though we're in a difficult economic climate."

The club is especially grateful to our loyal sponsors who include Waitrose, Humphries Kirk, The Celtic Kitchen, Dorset Cereals, Sportsgear, Words Etc, The Horse with the Red Umbrella, Cerijan, The Thomas Hardy Leisure Centre, the Dorset County Museum, Ernest G Hart, Beaux Cheveux, Goulds, Great Western Camping and Naturalife. We also had some great sponsorship from Weymouth including from W H Smith, The Crystal Shop, The Bag Shop, the Pound Shop and Asda."

West Dorset swimmers are now training hard for the Dorset County Championships in February.



TOP WARRIOR:
Harrison
Yarnold with
his trophy.



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INSIDE: Comprehensive local sports news round-up

TOUGH START FOR WEYMOUTH AT POOLE

WEYMOUTH face stiff opposition in their opening match of the 2010 Dorset League cricket season.

The Seasiders face Poole Town who were runners-up in last year's Premier Division at Redlands when the season gets under way on May 1st. They follow this with an away fixture at Wimborne & Colehill the following week.

Dorchester travel to Blandford on the opening day but then host Broadstone, who finished just above the county town in third place last season.

Weymouth 2nd's face a tough start after promotion to Division 1 last season. They start with a trip to Shroton before hosting last year's runners-up Bournemouth.

Meanwhile Beaminster who are desperately short of players for the coming season following a torrid time in the lower reaches last campaign welcome Suttoners to the Memorial Playing Fields on the opening day. Their visitors were relegated from the Premier Division last year so will provide tough opposition. It gets no better the following week when they travel to Sherborne, a notoriously competitive side.

Following relegation, Dorchester 2nd's start life in Division Two with a home match against Blandford 2nd's before travelling to Hamworthy Recreation.

Martinstown pipped Cattistock for the Division Four title in the last game of the season, and the two clash in Division Three in their second match of this campaign on May 8th in North Dorset.

BY STUART BROOM

The previous week Martinstown host Parley 2nd's whilst Cattistock visit Cerne Valley who were relegated along with Bridport who open with a match against Suttoners 2nd's at the Brewery Field.

They then travel to Portland RT who begin with a match at Pavilion Sports.

Beaminster 2nd's who managed to maintain their Division Four status, visit Stalbridge 2nd's before hosting Poole Town 3rd's.

Meanwhile Weymouth 3rd's are home to Marnhull 2nd's on May 1st followed by a trip to promoted Broadstone 4th's.

Dorchester 3rd's who went undefeated last season in winning back to back promotions host Branksome 2nd's at Charlton Down before travelling to Sturminster Marshall.

Bridport 2nd's who were promoted with them begin life in Division 6 at relegated Wareham then entertain Blandford 3rd's.

Abbotsbury host Weymouth Longshots followed by the long trip to Christchurch 2nd's.

Newly formed Martinstown 2nd's have no fixture for the first two weeks in Division 8 but Portland RT 2nd's host relegated Gillingham before travelling to new side

Stalbridge 3rd's.

In the Longhams Sunday League Division Four champions Weymouth start Division Three with a trip to Mudeford before entertaining Iwerne & Fontmell.

Symene host promoted Charlton Down on the opening day May 2nd and then welcome Lytchett Minster to Symondsbury the following week, whilst Portland RT 2nd's entertain Winton Sports 2nd's before travelling to promoted Puddletown the following week.

◆ **Beaminster skipper Ross Baker has put out a call for more players. Both Beaminster sides suffered from a lack of consistency last season due to unavailability of a number of players and Baker is looking for cricketers who can play on a regular basis.**

"We could fill the two teams easily with the players that are signed on, but for a variety of reasons many were not able to play regularly.

Unfortunately, being so far west of the county we are at a disadvantage geographically, whereas most of our games are in the east in the Poole or Bournemouth area and so some find it difficult to make the long journey."

The club start nets at Beaminster School next Tuesday (19th) starting at 7pm and would welcome any new players. They should either turn up at nets or can contact Ross on 07813897672.



◆ **NO JOE:** Bridport will miss the guile of Joe Ashton when they embark on their 2010 campaign. The spinner was forced to retire through injury last season

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